جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تَقِيْهِنَ بِالْكِيْفِلْتِرْيَّةُ عِن المُوسِية المنطية الأردنية والراي،

WASHINGTON (R) - U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Monday it was "imperative" that Arabs and Israelis resume Middle East talks on April 20 or a unique opportunity to make peace could be lost. In a major foreign policy speech in Chicago, Mr. Christopher said: "It is imperative that all sides act to seize this opportunity and return to the negotiating tables in Washington on April 20." "If they do the United States is ready to act as a full partner in their efforts," Mr. Christopher said. "If they do not, if they allow this unique chance to slip away, another generation in the Middle East could be lost to an endless cycle of confrontation and, eventually, war." The talks were suspended last December when Israel expelled 415 Palestinians to South Lebanon. Palestinians have demanded the speedy return of the expellees as a condition for rejoining the peace talks. Arab foreign ministers are due to meet on March 28 in Damascus to decide whether to accept the invitation and a Palestinian delegation is expected in Washington next week for talks with Mr. Christopher.

Volume 17 Number 5265

AMMAN TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 1993, RAMADAN 30, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Russian, U.S. submarines collide

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MOSCOW (R) - Russian and U.S. nuclear submarines collided in Arctic waters this weekend but the crash, 170 kilometres off Russia's northern coast, caused little damage to either craft, officials said Monday. Russian naval commanders accused the rival boat of carrying out dangerous manoeuvres. Defence Department officials in Washington said the United States regretted the incident. Neither the U.S. nor Russian statements made clear whether the crash occurred on or beneath the surface. But U.S. attack submarines, designed to hunt and destroy other subs and surface ships, seldom move on the surface of the ocean.

ICRC to resume activities in Sudan

KHARTOUM (AP) - The International Committee of the Red Cross is to resume operations in south Sudan after a full year suspension, an agreement signed Sunday by the two sides said. The agreement did not say when exactly the Red Cross will resume its mission. "The agreement reflects the desire of the two sides to establish constructive and positive relationship for serving the joint target which is the lifting of the suffering of innocent civilians in the operation zones," the government news agency SUNA said referring to south Sudan.

Bomb hoaxes disrupt India's parliament

NEW DELHI (R) - Bomb scares forced an abrupt adjournment in India's parliament Monday and disrupted work at the supreme court, officials said. Both houses of parliament were adjourned in the afternoon after presiding officers were informed of a bomb threat, members said. A bomb squad was called but found nothing. Work in both the Supreme Court and the Delhi High Court was disrupted following anonymous hoax telephone calls that bombs had been placed in the court rooms, police said. India has been jittery since a wave of car and suitcase bomb blasts in Bombay on March 12 killed 250 people and injured 1.200. Four days later a huge blast of explosives in Calcutta killed 69 people and injured scores more. Security in Delhi has been considerably strengthened around parliament, government buildings and the homes of top officials.

Nimitz enters Gulf

BAHRAIN (AP) — The aircraft carrier USS Nimitz entered the Gulf overnight along with a sixship battlegroup, a U.S. navy spokesman said Monday. Aircraft carrier battle groups routinely have been deployed in the Gulf since the Gulf crisis. The nuclear powered Nimitz replaced the USS Kitty Hawk, which departed last week after nearly three months in the region. With the Nimitz were the cruisers USS Reeves, USS Truxtun and USS Lake Champlain, the destroyer USS Leftwich and the supply ships USS Kansas City and USS Shasta. The Nimitz battlegroup brought to about 15 the number of U.S. warships deployed in the Gulf and the Arabian and Red

Forecast projects drop in Libyan oil

NICOSIA (AP) - Libya's oil production, its main source of income, is expected to drop after the turn of the century and will fall to less than a quarter of current levels without more investment and new finds, an oil industry newsletter said Monday. The Middle East Economic Survey said a forecast made for Libva by unidentified economic and oil experts expects oil production to fall from the current 1.7 million barrels a day to 1.1 million barrels a day from 2000 2010, and to drop to only 500,000 barrels a day in the following decade. The Cyprus-based weekly quoted the report as saying total oil revenues were expected to equal \$116 billion for 1992-2000, \$113 billion during 2000-2010, and \$90 billion for the following decade.

Israeli troops kill 3 in Gaza; six Israelis stabbed in Jerusalem

Rabin talks tough to soldiers in Gaza, but tells Knesset security lies in peace talks

Combined agency dispatches

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM -Israeli soldiers Monday shot and killed at least three Palestinians including an 11-year-old mentally retarded boy in the occupied Gaza Strip, and a Palestinian stabbed five Israeli students and their teacher in West Jerusalem, reports said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin rebuffed demands for tougher measures following the stabbing in the school, saying the Palestinians are waging a popular uprising that can only end through

Mr. Rabin told Israelis they had no choice but to absorb the punches, do more to defend themselves, and put their faith in the U.S.-brokered peace talks. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin also talked tough when he

Yeltsin's spokesman Monday ac-

cused the chief justice of pre-

maturely siding with parliament

in its effort to impeach him, and

the president issued a decree

placing Russian media under his

The Kremlin moves came as

Russia's constitutional court con-

vened to discuss Mr. Yeltsin's

declaration of emergency powers

and the power struggle between

the president and the parliament.

The court failed to reach an

If the court rules against Mr.

humiliating rout of France's rul-

ing Socialists in the first round of

prospect of a giant, potentially

unruly right-wing parliamentary

The sheer scale of the victory.

described by commentators as a

tidal wave, raised concern that

the conservative alliance would

be unable to maintain its facade

of unity and control its maverick

historic majority and problems,"

Pascal Perinaud, director of the

political think-tank French poli-

tical study centre, told France-

"We are headed towards an

groups in parliament.

Info radio Monday.

immediate decision.

protection.

"It must be made clear to the Palestinians they will achieve nothing from us through terror and violence," he told reporters as he toured the strip.

But the young conscripts and reservists in the cauldron of Palestinian revolt doubted Mr. Rabin could keep his promise to stem a wave of Arab-Israeli vio-"The people here hate our very

souls, and nothing will change until we fence off Gaza, make a gate in the fence, and get out," said 42-year-old reservist Andur The prime minister can come

here for four hours or four years, and Gaza will stay the same hell," added a 20-year-old infantryman as Mr. Rabin left his camp.

Other soldiers were also sceptical that Mr. Rabin, a former

Yeltsin camp asserts gaining

MOSCOW (Agencies) - Boris for breaching the constitution.

Yeltsin, the Congress of People's
Deputies, the highest legislative

A dissenting cabinet member on Monday left the government.

body, could move to impeach him Justice Minister Nikolai Fyodor-

issued Monday confirmed the France (UPF) coalition clinched

general elections and raised the tions Sunday and won 78 of the 80

support, hits constitution court

In his latest bid to thwart chief

rival Ruslan Khasbulatov, the

parliament speaker, Mr. Yeltsin

Monday placed the media under

his protection and ordered the

interior minister to take "neces-

television, radio and information

emergency session of the Con-

gress of People's Deputies, Mr.

Khasbulatov directed the Sup-

reme Soviet legislature to prepare

laws to put media under par-

but picture unrosy for right

39.5 per cent of the vote in the

first of two rounds of the elec-

seats decided outright, final In-

terior Ministry figures showed.

higher than their score in the first

round of last parliamentary elec-

tions in 1988, the collapse of the

Socialist Party meant the right

was poised for total domination

UPF would win 440 to 476 par-

liamentary seats after next Sun-

day's run-offs — the largest

majority since 1815 when the

monarchy was restored after the

French revolution, according to

Polling institutes forecast the

of the National Assembly.

While that was only slightly

liamentary control.

French Socialists routed,

sary measures" to defend state

On March 13, at the end of the

violence sparked by his December expulsion to Lebanon of 415 suspected members of Hamas

and other militant groups.

Israelis have killed 67 Arabs and Arabs have killed 12 Israelis since the expulsion.

Most of the violence has stemmed from Gaza, prompting calls by members of Mr. Rabin's coalition government to pull out of the overcrowded strip.
"Rabin can break their bones,

he can have us shoot them like dogs, or he can have us coddle them, give them all cars and houses - nothing will help," said Zimmerman, who has done nine tours of reserve duty in Gaza

Zimmerman was in a southern Gaza refugee camp in early 1988 when Mr. Rabin as defence minister ordered troops to break

(Continued on page 5)

ov resigned after failing to support Mr. Yeltsin at Sunday's

Presidential spokesman

Vyacheslav kostikov Monday

asserted - without offering evi-

dence — that Mr. Yeltsin has

ferendum April 25, undeterred

by criticism from hardline law-

makers and some of Russia's

Russia plunged into its deepe

crisis since the failed August 1991

coup when Mr. Yeltsin declared

emergency rule Saturday night

and scheduled a referendum to

(Continued on page 5)

The Socialists crashed to 17.6

per cent from 34.7 per cent in

1988, failed to win a single seat

outright and were set to lose

two-thirds of their 276 seats in the

Adding the affiliated left radic-

als movement and other left

candidates, the socialist bloc

huge majority. I think it's danger-

ous. Democracy can cope with

change and the French people

clearly voted for change, but it still needs an opposition," Indus-

try Minister Dominique Strauss-

Kahn said, pushing the Socialist

(Continued on page 3)

"France has never seen such a

totalled a mere 20.3 per cent.

outgoing parliament.

populace.

growing public support as he pro-



aciothes Israeli policeman clears the way to an ambulance for a Palestinian who was beaten severely by Israelis Monday after he stabbed six Israelis at a high school in West Jerusalem (AFP photo)

Controversy hits draft law on teachers' union By Ayman Al Safadi

Jordan Times, Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The failure of the Higher Council for the Interpretation of the Constitution to decide on the constitutional status of the teachers' union draft law has left the government with the power to decide the fate of organise unions. council president said Monday.

"The council could not reach a resolution. The decision is now with the executive authority." Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, who heads the nine-member council, told the Jordan Times. "It will be a political decision."

The council voted five to four against the constitutionality of the law, but a majority of legal experts contacted by the Jordan Times said its decision was not binding because it is not supported by a two-thirds majority as

required by the law. "The council's decision does not constitute a resolution. The (draft law) is constitutional," prominent lawyer Ibrahim Bakr told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Bakr's argument was supported by another prominent Jordanian lawyer.

"The council's decision (against the constitutionality of the draft (law) is not binding," lawyer Walid Abdul Hadi said. Another lawyer, however, said the council's ruling constitutes a legal dilemma and highlights the necessity of amending the law

Former Minister of Information Taher Hikmat, a lawyer, said, "on the surface, the (draft law) is unconstitutional" as the majority voted against it.

governing the decisions of the

The council's ruling casts doubts about the credibility of the draft law, he said.

The law was contested on the grounds that it unionises government employees in violation of the Constitution which, according to Mr. Lawzi, gives labourers and not civil servants the right to

refer the draft law to the council was wrong and argued in support of the minority ruling in the council.

The draft law was endorsed by the Lower House of Parliament Sunday but Mr. Lawzi said government had the legal right to

withdraw it if it chose so. Mr. Lawzi said the council would not hold any more meetings on the draft legislation because all attempts to reach a

two-third majority failed. The draft legislation is not expected to be tackled by the Upper House during this parliamentary session, however, since the current ordinary session will end on

If the government does not exercise what Mr. Lawzi said its legal right to withdraw the legisla-

tion, the Upper House is expected to reject the House's controversial amendment to article 5 of the draft law which gave teachers the right to stage strikes. Observers said this amendment is the most alarming provision of

the law because a teachers' strike would affect almost one third of society and put tremendous pressure on the government. "Rush is not required in dealing with this law," Mr. Lawzi

said. The educational process should be protected from potential disruption, affecting one million students and their families,

King deplores Israel's anti-Palestinian steps

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty eration and tolerance in this re-King Hussein has deplored gion. Israel's "crimes against the

"Perhaps one of the most disthe uprooting of 400 Palestinians from their land that has created major difficulties in the path of the ongoing peace process," King Hussein said in a message he sent occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

In the message, addressed to the chairman of the U.N. Committee on the elimination of Ra-Palestinians had also obstructed attempts for coexistence, mod-

"Since the principles regarding Palestinian people under its rule racial discrimination are the and inhuman policies that flag- same, condoning aggression and rantly violate the Fourth Geneva racism in a certain area is nothing Convention, which provides for but an encouragement for this the protection of civilians during practice anywhere else," the King said.

Selectivity, he said, "does not tinct examples of such policies is only tend to weaken the deterbetter world dominated by peace. cooperation and moderation but also harms the credibility of those to the United Nations on the institutions which are in charge of collective international action."

"Observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is an expression on the part of the world community to combat that resentcial Discrimination, the King said ful policy and a show of deterthat Israel's expulsion of the mination for collective action to

Palestinians upbeat over American letter; Husseini due in U.S.

By Wafa Amr Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A Palestinian delegation headed by Faisal Hus-seini, leader of the Palestinian delegation to peace talks with Israel, will visit Washington this week to hold talks with American officials on the Middle East peace process and the deadlock resulting from Israel's expulsion of Palestinians in December.

Another equally important Palestinian objective of the visit would be to secure better terms of reference in the peace talks, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said Monday.

According to Yasser Abed Rabbo, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the Information Department of the organisation, the delegation's visit comes in response to an

Mr. Abed Rabbo, who left Amman for Tunis Monday after a two-day visit, could not provide more details of the American message, which was received by PLO Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas and Mr. Husseini in Morocco on Friday.

PLO officials who spoke to the Jordan Times from Tunis on Monday sounded more optimistic after the receipt of the message. and voiced hope that Washington was slowly coming around to meet some of the key demands that the Palestinians have tabled as a precondition for their attendance at the next round of peace talks scheduled to begin in UII ON ADDI ZU

Mr. Husseini, who arrived here from Tunis Monday, also sound-

(Continued on page 5)

Palestinians say Israeli pullout from Gaza Strip unlikely, but debate issue

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - An Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Gaza Strip is not expected to materialise in the near future despite a heated debate in Israeli political circles and Palestinian politicians, officials from the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Hamas say.

Calls by members of the Israeli parliament and cabinet for a withdrawal from the Gaza Strip intensified after a marked increase in violence from both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian Israeli politicians appear to

have less territorial attachment to the strip, which houses about 800,000 Palestinians -over half of whom are refugees — than the West Bank and Jerusalem. The Israelis say in

'corridor dialogue" with the Palestinian negotiating team to the peace talks that they would be willing to dismantle settle-ments and "leave (Gaza) over

The Palestinian negotiating team was told in no uncertain terms in round six of the talks that the Israelis were ready to leave Gaza, lock stock and barrel," a senior Ammanbased advisor to the Palestinian negotiating team told the Jordan Times. Speculating why the Israelis

may be eager to implement such a move, the advisor said "The Gaza Strip is a troublesome area, because it is poor and overpopulated with re-Speaking on condition of

anonymity, the advisor said the (Continued on page 5)

Islamist push against alcohol gains ground, but law unlikely before 1994

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A controversial campaign spearheaded by Islamist deputies in Parliament to ban alcohol in Jordan on teligious grounds appears to be making headway, but a law to impose the prohibition is unlikely to come into effect during the term of the current Islamist-dominated Lower

Manouevering by the conservative but secular government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker seems to have preempted immediate parliamentary debate and approval of a draft law on prohibiting production and distribution of a alcoholic beverages, but the issue could be picked up by the next Parliament, which will be elected

The government will fulfill its constitutional obligation by presenting the draft legislation to the Lower House before the end of the current ordinary session of Parliament on March 31. But the catch is, according to government insid-

do so in an extraordinary session of the legislative authority, an unlikely prospect as things stood one week before

ers. there will be little time left for the House to discuss the draft legislation before it reces-And, if the Muslim Brotherhood-led Islamist bloc in Parliament wants to press the point and act upon the draft law, then it will have to

the end of the ordinary session. Even in the unlikely course that Parliament is convened in House would be limited to discussing the topics specified in a royal decree issued in line with a government recommendation, which, for all practical purposes, is sure to exclude the draft law on alcohol.

It is an almost foregone conclusion that the draft law will pass if it is put to vote on the House floor now since very few deputies would like to be seen as "un-Islamic" by voting against banning alcohol, particularly in an election year.

Indicative of the deputies' trends and political motivations were the facts that at least 11 deputies present in the country chose not to attend the Feb. 19, 1992 session of the House which voted to recommend the ban on alcohol, and nine of the 63 who did attend

the debate on the issue slipped away before the vote was taken

Among the few lawmakers who dared to speak out in the open against the Brotherhoodinspired motion were leftist Mohammad Fares Tarawneh and Fares Nabulsi.

According to a former prime minister, who preferred anonymity, the move by the Islamists is "psychological pressure."
"The writing was on the wall

since the (November 89) elections which created a legislative powerbase for the Brotherhood," he told the Jordan Times. "The key element in the

equation is clear: Very few Muslim deputies will stand up in Parliament and say out loud that they do not favour banning alcohol. Over and above the political considerations and arguments against adopting such a stand, they also have to keep in mind that they would be leaving the door open to be branded an apostate or un-

The vote in favour of the motion imposed a constitutional commitment on the government to prepare a draft law and present it to the House before the end of the immediately following regular session of Parliament.

Mr. Mbeideen, an independent Islamist member of the Lower House, would not make a definite comment on whether or not the draft iaw would be presented to the House before

"Let us say that the government will live up to its commitment and fulfil its constitution-

But, said an official source, "the government will definitely present the law to the House before the end of the current session, they (the deputies) will have no time to discuss it.'

Asked whether it meant that the government had charted such a course of events with the predetermined certainty that the law would not see light in the present Lower House, the official said: "You can make your own deductions."

The finalised version of the draft law has to pass through the Council of Ministers before being presented to the House. The only regular session of the Cabinet scheduled before March 31 is on Saturday and it is likely that the law would be passed then, but it would reach the House most probably on

Monday, when Parliament holds its final session before

The internal statute of the House demands that all deputies should have received copies of draft laws 24 hours ahead of debate on the floor and that every piece of legislation is referred to the Judiciary Committee for its observations and recommendations.

"Unless the House chooses to disregard the usual procedure of referring all draft laws to its Judiciary Committee and hold a marathon session to debate and vote on the draft law, there is little possibility of the legislation getting approved before the term of the current Parliament expires," noted a parliamentary

(Continued on page 5)

U.S. withdraws forces from south Somali town

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — The United States has withdrawn the quick reaction force it sent to the southern Somali town of Kismayu after an outbreak of fighting last week.

U.S. military spokesman Captain Ed Loomis said the last of the 500 soldiers left the town at 4 a.m. Monday in a convoy heading northwards. Thirteen helicopters

have also gone.
U.S. forces which had been in Kismayu before the fighting — an infantry company of 80 to 100 men and a military police platoon of 20 to 30 - have also withdrawn, he said.

The withdrawal leaves the whole of the Kismayu region in the hands of about 900 Belgian

The town of Kismavu, a large port 400 kilometres southwest of the capital Mogadishu, has been quiet since Mijarteen and Marehan clansmen drove out militiamen loyal to warlord Ahmad Omar Jess last Tuesday.
The United States sent the

quick reaction force to deter further fighting and to help a military judge investigate the fighting, which violated a cease-fire agreed by all militias.

The investigation was largely a political gesture to Colonel Jess and his ally in Mogadishu, Gener-

al Mohammad Farah Aideed. Both blamed Mohammad Said Hersi "Morgan," son-in-law of deposed dictator Mohammad Said Barre, for the defeat in Kismayu and said the U.S. and Belgian forces should have intervened to preserve the status quo.

The military judge, Colonel Frederick Lorenz, concluded that supporters of General Morgan violated the ceasefire by infiltrat-

Doctor given

15 years in

Moroccan

was impossible to say who started the fighting last Tuesday.

Gen. Aideed's group, the Somali National Alliance (SNA), pulled out of a national reconciliation conference in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa last Wednesday because of the inci-

Gen. Aideed's radio in Mogadishu said Monday that the SNA had asked the United Nations to extend the conference by two days to make up for time lost in a separate but equally inconclusive investigation by all the Somali

The conference was holding a full meeting Monday morning.
Capt. Loomis told Reuters that 50 to 100 armed Somalis on Sunday attacked a convoy of two international red cross trucks carrying food from Kenya to the town of Dobley, Sen. Morgan's current headquarters about 200 kilometres northwest of Kis-

The Belgian escort of eight to 10 soldiers was too small to fight them off so the convoy returned

"They're going to reinforce the escort with a platoon of Belgian troops and try to disarm the 50 to 100 Somalis if they can find them," Capt. Loomis said.

"Morgan's forces have been cooperative. In this instance they're working with us," he

Lots of weapons

When 2,000 soldiers made a door-to-door search for weapons in Kismayu several weeks ago, it did not take long for the metal detectors to warm up in back

graveyards.

Assault rifles, machineguns and grenades were dug up. Even heavy artillery was uncovered.

"Anywhere you can wrap a weapon in cloth and bury it, it's there," said U.S. Army Brigadier General Greg Lile, who was forced to return to Kismayu last week with reinforcements when violence flared up again.

At least 10 people were killed last Tuesday and 51 others sought treatment for gunshot wounds. It provided stark evidence of how prevalent weapons have become in a country plagued by years of civil war.

Some officials have urged total disarmament before the United States turns over control of Operation Restore Hope to the United Nations, expected around

But some of Somalia's warring factions have argued that giving up their weapons leaves them open to attacks by bandits or

rivals. In the first months after the U.S.-led military coalition arrived Dec. 9 to safeguard food convoys to the starving, troops confiscated 5,525 small arms, 92 heavy machine-guns and more than 1.3 million rounds of ammunition, along with tanks

and armoured personnel carriers. Marine Col. Fred Peck would not even hazard a guess as to what percentage of the country's overall arsenal is still out there.

"I think we have made a dent," Col. Peck said. "The important point is making people keep them at home or buried. They will get used to not carrying them

Somali shilling – a war currency on the rise

sex case RABAT (AP) — A gynaecologist has been stripped of his medical license and sentenced to 15 years in prison for his role in a sex cash in cardboard boxes and scandal involving police abuse of

more than 500 women. Dr. Driss Lahlou is one of more than a dozen people, including several police officials, to be convicted in a case that has horrified this country. A death sentence has been

ed to Police Comp Hai Mohammad Mustafa Tabet. convicted two weeks ago of coercing more than 500 women and girls into sex acts and videotaping them. currency traders.

A court Sunday stiffened a sentence against Dr. Lahlou that had previously been only two years plus a \$110 fine after two women came forward and accused Dr. Lahlou of various crimes.

They included complicity in rape, performing forced abortions, and reconstructing the maidenheads of raped girls for Mr. Tabet. Other details of his involvement were not disclosed. Under the sentence, Dr. Lahlou will lose his medical litold Reuters.

cence for five years.

Prosecutors had requested Dr. Lahlou receive a 20-year prison term and the permanent revocadollar, the trader said. tion of his right to practice medi-

Mr. Tabet and several other police officers were sentenced in connection with luring hundreds of women and girls into an apartment Mr. Tabet kept for sexual cardboard boxes. Investigators found 100 video

dealt with.

listen, we just shoot him."

By Sue Pleming Reuter

MOGADISHU - The Somali shilling is a currency on the rise in a street market where money traders keep warning shots bring unruly dealing to a halt.

With no central bank — it collapsed after civil war began in 1991 — and no money market regulations, black marketeers in Mogadishu are doing a roaring business.

led troops last December to protect famine relief looted by gunmen, hard cash has fattened the wallets of many

The influx of 28,000 soldiers, aid agencies and journalists has dramatically increased the supply of dollars in the country, pushing up the price of the local shilling by more than 30 per cent

against the U.S. currency. "Before the Americans came the dollar traded at about 7,000 shillings, but now it gets about 5,000 shillings," a money dealer in the capital's hectic Bakara market

At the height of the civil war, the shilling nosedived to about 9,200 shillings to the

The hub of the money exchange is in the centre of Bakara market. Heavily guarded by men with AK-47 rifles, traders operate in the open air, hauling wads of dollars and shillings from

When the crowd gets out of hand, gunmen fire shots in the air. Thieves are severely

"If we find a thief we punish him and if he does not nine-member money market committee, Said Shardi

Mr. Raage, who said he was a former driver for the Iraqi embassy in Mogadishu, said about 200 traders were "registered" with his body. Each paid about \$50 a day for a space in the pit.

As chairman, Mr. Raage sets an opening price for the dollar at 8 a.m. daily and a closing price at dusk. The week, but closes early on Friday to enable Muslims to go to mosque.

On Sunday, the shilling opened at 5,300 to the dollar, just 10 shillings off its closing price Saturday. After four hours of trade, it had strengthened to 5,250.

"The market operates on a supply and demand basis. There were too many dollars this morning, so the shilling strengthened," said one deal-

Small banks have sprouted up in areas near the central trading pit to fill the gap left by the demise of the formal banking sector.

Mahad Mohammad Issa, who was in banking before the war broke out, has two safes in his small banking shack, tucked away behind the open market stalls.

Mr. Issa does not keep ledgers and clients do not get bank statements. When a customer hands over money, Mr. Issa counts it and pastes a label on the bundle indicating the amount.

"When the customer comes back, we count the money again to make sure it is all there. I don't pay any in-terest," Mr. Issa said.



pali children are back in school with the help of U.S. Marines who pay the teachers (AFP photo)

Algerians march against 'terrorism'

ALGIERS (R) — Hundreds of thousands of Algerians marched from Martyrs' Square in the capital Monday in a powerful rejection of violence and "terrorism" blamed on Muslim fun-

The "you-you's" of women mixed with chants of "Down with terrorism" as young and old streamed through sunlit streets towards May 1st Square.

Other similar marches were being held nationwide, called by politicians, trade unionists, employers, doctors, women's group

and other associations.

In Algiers, the official news agency APS estimated the crowd at "nearly a million." Marchers took 90 minutes to pass. No incidents were reported.

Cries of "Neither Tehran, nor Khartoum — (an) Algerian Algeria" and "People and army with you, freedom fighter." — a reference to the war of independence against the French -echoed through the streets. Iran, with Sudan, is widely

seen as backing fundamentalists who are blamed for killing some 300 members of the security forces in the past year.

More than 600 people have

died in the violence, and last week a former education minister, a doctor and a senior official were killed.

"Why have they killed them? They are fathers of families. We are against the terrorists who are killing the police, the gendarmes," said 17-year-old Lydia,

CAIRO (R) — Ibrahim Nafeh, editor of Egypt's establishment newspaper Al Ahram, was

elected head of the press syndi-

cate under a new law making it

harder for Muslim fundamental-

ists to control professional un-

The results of the voting which

took place Sunday were pub-

lished in Egyptian newspaper

Mr. Nafeh won the voting by a big majority of 1,787 votes against his rival Mohammad Ett-

man, a magazine journalist, who

The new law — part of an overall plan by the government to

combat the increasing influence

of fundamentalists - requires at

least 50 per cent of a syndicate's

members to vote in an election

Supporters of the Muslim

Brotherhood, the main political

opposition to the government of President Hosni Mubarak, have

won control of Egypt's main

syndicates in recent elections

Mr. Ettman told Reuters the

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

often with very low turnouts.

for it to be considered valid.

Monday.

got 318 votes.

elected head of press

ing it.

option.

ing a placard against fun-damentalism. Another woman added: "The doctor was well-known in the

Casbah and helped many poor Women wearing veils mixed with others in jeans or dresses accompanied by children in push-

chairs or on foot. Mohammad Baaza, a greybearded 85-year-old resident of Algiers, said: "We are here to say this must stop."

Monday's march was the first mass public demonstration since grieving crowds filled the capital for the funeral of assassinated President Mohammad Boudiaf

last July. The government authorised the marches "to allow citizens to express their reprobation and determination to oppose terrorist assassinations," it said in a statement carried by the official news

agency APS. Pictures of Mr. Boudiaf mixed with countiess Algerian flags and placards demanding "No pardon for terrorists" and "Glory to the martyrs of modern Algeria."

Shops closed and security was low key as marchers assembled behind placards and national Just before the crowd started

its march, APS reported that five gendarmes were wounded Sunday when they came under fire from "an armed terrorist group estimated at a dozen people.'

The group of nine gendarmes fought off the attackers, two or three of whom were believed to have been wounded.

new law was not constitutional

and be hadfiled a lawsuit challeng-

"You cannot practice democracy with force," Mr. Ettman said.
"Voting is and must be a personal

Salama Ahmad Salama, man-

aging editor of Al Ahram, said

the new law had pushed people to

the past are taking part today and

this is an encouraging sign," Mr. Salama told Reuters.

'Many who used to boycott in

"My only reservation on the

implementation of the new law is

that it makes it a condition that

elections must be supervised by

judges, which means journalists

are not trusted to carry out their

own elections," Mr. Salama said.

widely-respected Islamist who

was running for the board, com-mented: "We oppose the new law

because it is imposed on us."
"The new law violates human

rights regulations and is opposed to democracy," he said. "Mem-bers of any syndicate should have

a say on the laws binding them."

Mohammad Abdul Koddous, a

that more than 70,000 Algerians had handed their hunting weapons to the police and gendarmerie for safekeeping in the seven areas covered by a night Algeria is under a state of

emergency imposed in February 1992 after the cancellation of a general election in which they fundamentalist party, the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) had taken a commanding first round lead.

The party was later banned and Interior Minister Mohammad Hardi said in a newspaper interview Sunday there would never be a pardon for terrorist and criminals, including those who commanded them, "that is, the

In the second part of his interview Monday, Mr. Hardi blamed the FIS for Algeria's current situation, saying that the elec-tions had been "manipulated" and the FIS had exploited many Algerians by trying to "present the coming of an Islamic state as the solution to their problems."

"We are against terrorism and the fundamentalists," said one young marcher. Another added: We are here in solidarity with the families of victims of terror-

Trades union leader Abdul Hak Benhamouda told the crowd in front of the UGTA headquarters in May 1st Square:

"This march is the spring of the new Algeria against those who wanted to take us back to the dark centuries... We are ready to sacrifice 1.5 million martyrs not

Egypt's Al Ahram editor | U.S., Iraq both press for public meeting

NICOSIA (AP) — For different reasons, both the United States and Iran favour holding a public U.N. Security Council meeting to discuss whether sanctions against Baghdad should continue, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

on sanctions

The weekly newsletter, published in Nicosia, said it under-stood the two countries were pushing for the U.N. meetings, which convene every two months, to be held publicly.

It did not say who its sources were, but the newsletter has good economic and diplomatic contacts throughout the region.

Until now, the decision as to whether sanctions against Baghdad should continue always has been discussed behind closed doors. The next meeting is set for March 29.

MEES said the United States favoured an open session in order to give it a chance to reaffirm its policy that sanctions should be maintained.

Amnesty accuses Egyptian police of shoot-to-kill policy

CAIRO (AP) — Amnesty International urged Egyptian authorities Monday to investigate the killing of at least 20 Muslim extremist suspects as a result of an alleged shoot to kill police

The London-based organisation said human rights have suf-fered "serious deterioration" during a government crackdown against militants trying to Turn Egypt into an Islamic theocracy. An Amnesty International statement accused the government of giving security author-ities an "official license to kill

with impunity."
Major General Al Shamy, the Interior Minister's spokesman, denied police went into con-frontations with extremists ordered to shoot to kill. But Gen. Shamy said police remain on full alert, and will be especially so during the Eid Al Fitr feast that

starts Wednesday. "We do not start shooting first. The extremists start shooting, and we have to answer back." Gen. Shamy told the Associated Press. "When they shoot dead an

officer, we have to respond." By Associated Press count, police have shot dead 28 suspected militants since the beginning of March. This figure in-cludes nine extremists killed in a shootout in the southern resort of Aswan on March 9 and 10 in the southern town of Assiut last Wednesday.

In the same period, nine olicemen and three bystanders have been killed during police raids.

Amnesty International said that since early 1980, "a pattern has emerged of leading figures and members of Islamic opposition groups being killed by members of the security forces."

The high number of deaths and the escalated violence worry many Egyptians, even those

angry about deadly blows extremists have dealt Egypt's important tourism industry. Of 132 people killed since the violence escalated about 15 months ago, most were

suspected extremists. Amnesty international is concerned that the security forces in Egypt appear to be pursuing ages shoot to kill policy...in the latest of the government's sweeping measures to crush militant Islameasures to crush militant Islamic groups," the statement said.
It said a senior Interior Ministry official was quoted last Thursday as saying police "have been instructed to shoot to kill militants who resist security forces."

Such comments, Amnesty said, clearly breach international standards relating to the use of lethal force. This looks like an official license to kill with impun-

Amnesty urged Egyptian authorities to "conduct an urgent review" of its policy and to carry out "prompt and impartial investigations" into all the killings.

The Amnesty statement also denounced "mass arbitrary arrests, torture, long-term administrative detention, unfair political trials before military courts resulting in death sentences and killing by security forces."

It said Amnesty also has conde-

mned "deliberate and arbitrary killings" by Islamic extremists. In a related development, an Egyptian court sentenced Khaled Mustafa Thabet to one year in prison at hard labour for stabbing three Russian tourists, two women and a man, in the Mediterranean port of Port said

last October. Mr. Thabet told the court he was a religious Muslim but not an extremist. He said he was angered by the tourists' revealing clothes as they stood taking pictures in front of a mosque. The women wore shorts.

Iran Mujahedeen pursue effort to befriend U.S.

Mujahedeen-e-Khalq of Iran has, bought time on CNN this week to

The Reagan and H run one minute ads showing trations shunned the group, partalleged human rights violations and terrorism by Iran and describing the opposition group's Iran with whom it sought at va-military might and political agent, rious times an improved rela-

The ads invite viewers to join being bused and flown Washi ngton.

The Mujahedeen, with its skillful public relations machine and persistent courting of media and politicians, has sought to make its mark on Washington for almost a

With a new administration, its leadership believes the time has sor of terrorism." never been better to gain American sympathies and support.

If, indeed, President Bill Clinton keeps his promise to promote human rights and democracy around the world, said Mujahedeen chief foreign spokesman Mohammad Mohabessin, the only way to do that is to crack down on the clerics ruling Iran.

And the only viable alternative to those rulers, Mr. Mohabessin said in an interview, is the Mujahedeen. The organisation, the largest member of a coalition called the National Council of Resistance, has had thousands of its supporters inside Iran hung or

But the United States has always regarded the Mujahedeen as a terrorist organisation because it killed several Americans when it was fighting against the U.S.-backed Shah who ruled Iran until he was overthrown in 1979. The Mujahedeen contends the killings were carried out by factions who have long split away from the organisation, and it has

Muscat, Abu Dhabi (RI)

Muscat, Abu Dhabi (RI)

Karachi, Dubai (RI)

Doha, Bahcain (RI)

London (RI)

Montreal (RJ

.. Aden (RJ)

Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RI)

WASHINGTON (AP) — The sought persistently to reverse

The Reagan and Bush adminisly because of its past and partly out of reluctance to antagonise

But Muiahedeen leaders say in a rally outside the White none of these policies diminished House Friday, followed by a Tehran's aggressiveness towards march to the capitol along with the West. And they are hopeful thousands of Iranian supporters the new administration may final-

ly see it their wav. That hope has been fuelled by U.S. allegations that Iran is behind a spreading campaign of terrorism against Israel and Arab governments such as Egypt. In fact, the State Department issued a statement recently calling Iran "the most dangerous state spon-

These accusations have found a new resonance among Americans since the World Trade Centre bombing last month, the most serious act of international terrorism on U.S. soil in 17 years and one allegedly carried out by Isla-mic radicals.

But administration officials, who have undertaken a review of U.S. policy towards Iran, predict recognition for the Mujahedeen is unlikely - especially if the wave of recent attacks continues.

Nonetheless, the Clinton administration quietly has been urging its allies to isolate Iran — by spreading the word that Iran is a bad credit risk and should not get foreign loans with which to stock its arsenals, said one official who spoke on condition of not being identified by name. The current crop of foreign

makers — including Secretary of State Warren Christopher and

National Security Adviser Tony

Lake - has good reason to be

wary of Iran. They all served under President Jimmy Carter.

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

MARKET PRICES

..... Ađen (RJ)

JORDAN TELEVISION

cassettes made over the characters

with cameras hidded in the bed-

room walls. Some of the tapes

were apparently distributed and

Mr. Tabet intends to appeal

the death sentence.

•	
PROC	RAMME TWO
	Gala de la Presse
	Concert de Patrick Bruel
19:00	News in French
19:15	Kargo
19:38	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Ambie
20:30	The Powers that Be
21-10	The Distractor Dengero
22-00	The Dirtwater Dynasty News in English
44500	Comment of the second s
22:29	Feature Film; "Three Fugitimes"
	PRAYER TIMES

CHURCHES St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifleb. biles of God Church, Tel. 052765. St. Joseph Church Tcl. 624590. Church of the Ansunciation Tcl. De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

ta Church Tci: 622366 of the Annunciation Tci. Church Tcl. 630851, Tcl. Anglica: 628543. Catholic Church Tcl. Armenian Orthodox Church Tcl. 775261. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. 652526. Evangelical Latheran Church Tel: 824328.

Meteorology. Another rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be northcasterly light to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and

EA3.25.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Salasts Tel. 823824, 654932.
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691.
Church of the Redenter ... Tel. WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Min./Max. temp. 6 / 18

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN: nad Al Nahawi 693925 Dr. Khaled Mu'ddi Dr. Ghazi Abu Sheikha Dr. Adnan Al Zughoui Fires pharmacy
Ferdows pharmacy
Al Asema pharmacy
Nairoukh pharmacy 778336 637055 623672 Al Salam pharmacy Yacomb pharmacy 636730 644945 637660 623672 Dr. Ali Al Shuqairi

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre Civil Defence Department ... Civil Defence Immediate 630341 Fire Brigade.. Blood Bank ... highway Police
Traffic Police
Traffic Police
Public Security Department
Hotel Complaints
Price Complaints
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. 773111 . 774111 Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615 m Alis Intl. Airport..... 08-53200

HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khaliki Materaity, J. Ann ... 644281/6 Shmeisani Hospital University Hospital 667227/9 664164/0 .. 777101/3 . 775111/26 Army, Marka Queen Alia Hospital

Amai Hospital ZARQA: 674155 Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital ... (09)900560 [bn Sina Hospital (09)986732 Al Hitma Modern Hospital (09)99990 Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER

> QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RI) information depart-ment at the Oueen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5. where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(Terminal 1)

..... Rome (AZ)
..... Beirut (ME)
Bucharest (RO) DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
...... Vicana, Frankfurt (RJ) 11:25 Paris, Brossels . London i

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

18:11

20:30

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s (Terminal I T PRICES

Africa in 1960.

The King said in his message

that he appreciated the commit-

tee's work in fighting racial discri-

mination in South Africa and

renewed the support of the peo-

ple and government of Jordan for

the continued international

efforts aimed at eliminating all

Home News

Queen visits children's centres on the occasion of Eid Al Fitr

AMMAN (J.T.) — On the occasion of Eid Al Fitr, Her Majesty Queen Noor, Monday visited the Social Institute for the Rehabilitation and Care of Orphans (SIRCO) and the Child Care

The institute, located near Al Ahli Club, houses 74 boys and girls, and the Child Care Home, in Bayader Wadi Al Seer, is home to 49 boys.

Both institutions are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to accommodate those who are in need of their services. In the spirit of the Eid, the

Queen delivered clothes, shoes and educational games and toys

By Stephanie Genkin

Arab costumes, Widad Kamel

Kawar seeks to create an atmos-

phere of nostalgia. The bulk of

ctudes relics from the villages of

Mrs. Kawar's impressive ex-

hibition, he first in Jordan in 20

years, is merely a glimpse into her

expansive collection of over 1.000

of the workmanship and labour

involved in each piece. Mrs.

Kawar prizes each costume for

As a collector and exhibitor.

The brightly coloured and intri-

she strives to preserve Palestinian

cately designed dresses, some

dating back 100 years, highlight the diverse and rich development

of embroidery as an art form.

The exhibition emphasises the

variation of patterns and symbols

from village to village and the

individuality of the dresses de-

No two dresses are alike.

The majority of dresses from

Hebron, Bethlehem, Jaffa and

Ramallah are cotton-or silk-

based material with vibrant

stitch-work reflecting the tradi-

King congratulates Pakistani

and on behalf of the Jordanian people and govern- Najdawi.

ti..... designs of each region.

signed in the same region.

the memories they evoke.

In addition to her appreciation

Palestinian costumes.

culture and tradition.

Palestine.

indie-work treasures in-

At SIRCO, Her Majesty was received by Minister of Social Development Amin Awad Mashaqbeh, and by Director and Deputy-Director of the institute. Aida Awamleh and Rabiha Gha-

In a speech before the Queen, Dr. Mashaqbeh said the SIRCO plans to expand its services to cover 100 children.

SIRCO provides food and full accommodation to the orphans who are cared for by 14 female teachers and supervisors, the minister said.

Upon directives from His

Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, and in light of SIRCO's success, the ministry plans to set up a similar institute in the Mafraq region to accommodate 50 to

Wadi Seer where she visited the Child Care Home and listened to a briefing on its functions.

Receiving the Queen at the cess Alia Al Faisal.

After inspecting the institute, the Queen moved to Bayader

Child Care Home was its Director, Amal Faqir. Queen Noor was accompanied on both visits by Their Royal Highnesses Princess Aisha Bint Al Hussein and Prin-

Eid sales are down, say merchants

By Sausan Ghosheh and Samir Barhoum Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As merchants complain of low sales, shoppers complain of the increases in the price of popular commodities during the Eid Al Fitr Feast, marking the end of the holy month of Ramadan.

Downtown, streets were crowded with people searching to buy clothes and sweets in preparation for the feast, but few shoppers seemed to have made any

The Eid season is considered to be one of the periods when business flourishes for merchants. Yet, most merchants confirmed that their sales dropped between 40 and 70 per cent compared to last vear.

"Every year is worse than the one before" said Hassan Khalil, a

tovstore owner. There is a huge difference between the quantity of products sold last year and those sold this year" said Talal Subhi, a bouti-

Most boutique owners attributed the drop in sales to the timing of the Eid, which this year

falls between two seasons.

They said they were confused whether to display winter or summer clothes at their shops, and believed the same was true of the

people.
"We brought winter clothes assuming that this year would be as cold as the year before, but it was not. People now prefer to wait to buy summer clothes," said Samer Darwazeh, a boutique

Another reason for the decreased sales, according to merchants, was the economic crisis affecting most Jordanians.

"This view was supported by two shoppes, Abu Nihad and his wife Umm Nihad, who said they have bought new clothes for their eight children, and this has left them no money to buy any for themselves for the Eid. In addition they said they are

not thinking of buying sweets for the feast, instead, Umm Nihad might prepare some at home. Abu Khaled, a cashier at a confectionary, said people nowa-

days "tend to be economical and make sweets at home rather than spending their money in the mar-

This, he said, has resulted in a decline in sweet sales.

Meanwhile, reputable confectionaries deny that they have been greatly affected by the current economic situation, saying that the quality of products will always attract customers regardless of the financial situation.

To further emphasize the decline in the standard of living of some families. Mr. Subhi described an incident where a man came to his boutique with his 10 children to buy clothes. "The man began to cry in the

shop because his salary was only JD 100, which he said he uses for paying his monthly expenses. leaving him nothing for the Eid expenses," Mr. Subhi said. Customers perceive the main

the price hikes by merchants prior to the Eid, a charge denied by all merchants. Jamal Salah, a boutique owner

reason for the drop in sales to be

said "it is irrational to raise prices in such a season because a good merchant believes in selling more Mr. Saleh explained that "cus-

tomers believe that we raise the prices because of stories merchants tell them. In order to sell the products for higher prices, we claim that during the Eid they were or will be higher."

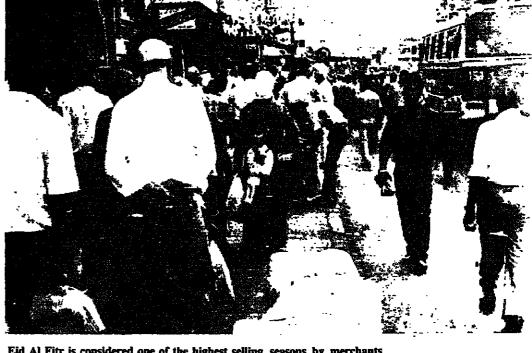
Along with other merchants, Mr. Salah complained of the small profit they are earning. Most merchants attribute the sense among customers that prices have increased because people's basic expenses have risen while their incomes remain

the same. This money shortage has re-sulted in some parents buying for the children and neglecting themselves. A customer said he bought new clothes for his son. but for the first Eid in his life he bought none for himself. Store owners estimate that up

to 70 per cent of their sales were for children's items. In addition, shoe sales de-

clined, because customers say they cannot afford them.

Merchants have told the Jor-



Eid Al Fitr is considered one of the highest selling seasons by merchants



sales would improve in the up-coming days, otherwise this will

year will be extremely low. If sales are low during the Eid,

any kind, the JEA would be

asked to become involved; but at

the capital revealed that many of

whole year, boutique owners

Special to the Jordan Times pair of velvet wedding gowns with AMMAN — For many visitors, unusual embroidery adorning the the latest exhibition at the French sleeves, sides and bodice. Cultural Centre will be a journey The dresses are meant to be into memories. more than ornate; through design Displaying a sample of her and colours they convey a mesprivate collection of traditional

> In addition to identifying the woman's village, the contumes may also indicate marital status, for example.

> On such cress on display at the exhibition is from Sinai. The predominance of blue stitched throughout the bottom of the gown meant that the woman wearing it was available for mar-

But upon marriage, additional colours were added around the periphery of the blue design to show that she was no longer single.

Despite the enormity of her collection, perhaps the largest privately-owned one of its kind, Mrs. Kawar knows the history and story behind each and every

A visit to the exhibition will be enhanced by a guided tour from the expert herself, who is enthusiastic to share her knowledge

with the public. Mrs. Kawar first became interested in the traditional costumes of Palestine about 40 years ago, after a friend offered her a

couple of old dresses and wedding gowns. the French
She was immediately taken by March 30.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein ity. The King Monday also delegated the governor Monday sent a cable to Pakistani President Ghuof Amman to convey his condolences to the

lam Ishaq Khan congratulating him in his name Awamleh family on the death of Ahmad Al

the worn threads bearing the Two outstanding costumes featured at the exhibition include a memories of a culture under

Cherishing the skill and tradi-tion behind these pieces, Mrs. Kawar decided to devote her energies to collecting the costumes of the various regions of sage about the individual wearing After 1967, with the Israeli

> occupation of the West Bank, many women were selling their traditional dresses for needed money.

Seeking to protect the endangered culture, Mrs. Kawar, expanded her cherished collection, which she primarily exhibits in Europe.

After a successful exhibition at the Arab Institute in Paris, Mrs. Kawar published a book providing extensive background and history of the traditional costumes of Palestine and Jordan which includes photographs depicting part of her remarkable collection.

The book is published in French and is entitled "Memoire de Soie," which is a play on words. Translated directly it means "Memories of Silk," referring to the base material of many of the dresses. But the French

word "soi" means yourself.
The book and exhibition targetted to Palestinians, though by no means exclusively, seek to rekindle a nostalgia for village life in Palestine.

The exhibition of the traditional costumes will be on display at the French Cultural Centre until

ment on Pakistan's national day. King Hussein

wished Mr. Khan good health and happiness and

the Pakistani people further progress and prosper-

More bomb shelters planned for Amman By a Jordan Times 'Should we reach a decision of

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Amman Municipality announced Monday that it was planning to ensure suffi-cient bomb shelters in the capital in cooperation with the Civil Defence Department (CDD).

Finding that shelters have building, Amman Mayor Mohammad Bashir said that persons wishing to build a house are required to include the construction of a shelter as a prerequisite to obtaining a building licence from the municipality.

reported a drop in the number of

pared with the previous week.

No murders were reported dur-

ing this week, and only one was

reported the week before.

according to a PSD statement.
The Number of reported mur-

ders also dropped by at least 50

per cent with one case reported,

But the report cited an increase

in the number of burglaries and

car thefts, and said nearly 70

burglary cases were solved

through police investigations.

Fraud increased slightly to 10

the statement said.

President of the Jordan Engineers Association (JEA) Husni Abu Ghaida said that there is a decades-old law requiring each house to have its own shelter, but the law was often not enforced.

Once home-owners had paid the fee for the licence, which included the prerequisite to build a shelter, many went ahead and homes without such shelcome an essential element in a ters, Mr. Abu Ghaida explained. Also, many home-owners who

built the shelters used them instead as store rooms, he added. Mr. Abu Ghaida said that since the beginning of 1993, the concerned authorities have been trying to implement a new build-

PSD reports fewer total crimes

cases, nine of which were solved

According to the PSD remark-

festive firings: 40 per cent less compared with the previous

The PSD has issued a call to

the public reminding them that

festive firing was dangerous and

The PSD reported that a uni-

versity student in Irbid was clean-

ing his pistol when it accidentally

went off injuring him with a

attempted suicide of a 26-year-

The statement reported the

bullet wound to the leg.

ing code requiring all buildings or set of buildings to have shelters of their own. But he said that the regulations

have never been applied and more discussions among the concerned authorities are to be held after Eid Al Fitr to reach a final agreement.

hat it was true that a law has always existed requiring homes to have their own shelters, but, he said, the municipality's main aim now is to consult with the CDD on ways to reduce their cost by building shelters that can benefit whole neighbourhoods in-

old man who swallowed a large

quantity of tranquillizers. The

man has been undergoing treat-

ment at Al Bashir Hospital and

was reported to be in fair condi-

A 28-year-old woman, said to

be suffering from a mental dis-

order, swallowed a poisonous

substance in an unsuccessful

suicide attempt, the student

According to the PSD, the

The PSD reported no other

smuggling or drug trafficking

border police force stopped an

attempt to smuggle 9,115 heads

of sheep into the country.

attempts for the period.

this stage, this matter mainly concerns the municipality and the CDD," Mr. Bashir said. Inspections of homes around

the shelters were being used for The mayor told the Jordan other purposes, the mayor said. In its drive to reduce the financial burdens on the public, the municipality has been implementing measures to improve and modernise its services, Mr. Bashir said.

The mayor said that since the start of 1993, the municipality

several beneficiaries and notiborne by only one household, in order to reduce the cost to indi-In this regard, he explained at

for services will be shared by 15

the fees for building retainingwalls, stairs and pavement are to: be shared by the whole neigh-bourhood rather than being paid structures. Mayor Bashir said he sent the

CDD a note requesting a meeting to be convened by senior officials. from the municipality and the civil defence to coordinate proadopted a measure by which fees cess of building shelters.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

☆ Exhibition entitled the Memory of Silk, displaying traditional Jordanian and Palestinian costumes, shawls, carpets, potrery copperware, from the Widad Kawar collection — at the French Cultural Centre.

French Socialist party routed

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public cases, nine of which were Security Department PSD has by the police, it added.

crimes of various types in Jordan able development was a signifi-between March 13 and 19, com-

illegal.

(Continued from page 1)

appeal for a fight-back on the than its partner, the Union for second ballot.

"The problem will be to control and impose order," Mr. Perinaud said, noting that minorities within the right could be emboldened by the victory.

Pasqua, rebels within the Gaullist Rally for the Republic (RPR) who led the fight against the Maastricht Treaty on European Union last year, have called for a devaluation of the franc to spur growth. They could gain support f recession persists and unem-

Socialists and mainstream conservatives say the franc must be pegged to the German mark to reassure investors, curb inflation and modernise the economy.

Experts said the right's tidal wave victory hid simmering jealousies between the alliance's two pillars.

The RPR with 20.4 per cent is likely to win about 25 more seats

French Democracy (UDF) with 19.1 per cent, boosting its claim to head the government.

RFR leader Jacques Chirac,

who headed the last right-wing government in 1986-88, has said he does not want to serve as premier again. Former RPR finance Minister Edouard Balladur was said to be the leading candidate for prime minister.

But the UDF demanded its share of power. UDF leader Valery Giscard d'Estaing said that if the gap between the two parties was small, the permiership would

ting up a brusing duel with Socialist President Francois Mitterrand who says he plans to stay on until the end of his second mandate in 1995.

The president intends to guide foreign policy, a role implicitly reserved for the head of state under the 1958 constitution, but also to defend social welfare rights, which Socialists claim the right intends to dismantle.

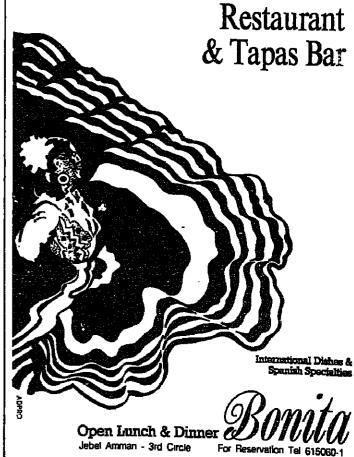
Mr. Mitterrand "cohabited" with the conservatives, led by Mr. Chirac, in 1986-88. But the coming period could be far tougher. "Cohabitation will be much more difficult," said Calude Estier. A Mitterrand confident

and socialist senate leader. Stripped of most parliamentary support. Mr. Mitterrand will have to pattle the conservatives almost single-handed to defend the left's policies. "One man alone against the right," read a headline in left-wing newspaper Liberation.

----CORRECTION---

The Jordan Times Monday published a notice of condolences as expressed by the Jarrar family over the death of Stefan Mousa Abdul Ghani Jarrar

erroneously quoting a fax number of 0033 485505555 for those wishing to send condolences. The correct fax number is 0033148550555.



(Continued from page 1) forms of bigotry and racial discricreate a world free of any form of discrimination based on colour, "We adopt this clear stand out race, language or faith and a of the conviction that racism is a world dominated by equality, crime against mankind and human dignity," the King added. "Our stand conforms with the "justice and peace." extremism. The day, which is observed annually, was inaugurated by a Islamic faith and teachings which U.N. General Assembly Resolu-

implanted in the hearts of the tion in 1966. It honours the mem-Jordanian people and the Arab ory of the 69 unarmed, peaceful Nation the spirit of tolerance, demonstrators, mainly women brotherhood and equality among and children, who were masvarious races and groups." sacred at Sharpeville in South The observance of the day, the

King said, "is a reaffirmation of the principles of democracy and human rights, and would enhance the hopes and aspirations for a quick elimination of the racial discrimination system in South

But, he noted, "this optimistic feeling is still marred by the

King deplores Israeli measures painful events and resentful pracices that have been going on and which are not so much different in essence and form racial discrimination - ethnic fanaticism and

"The latest positive steps and developments in South Africa since 1990 aiming at renouncing apartheid will create a convenient political climate for a successful national dialogue among various parties in order to create a united democratic society free of all forms of discrimination," he said.

He said such positive steps were a welcome development. "giving encouragement to the world community to pursue efforts for a political settlement and negotiations until the aspired objectives have been fulfilled."

Political scientists said the size of the centre-right victory could create problems within the coali-

Philippe Seguin and Charles

ployment mounts further.

be "an open question."

The victory will give the right control of the government and both houses of parliament, set-

By Rami G. Khouri

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Troubles on the Nile

THE WAY the Egyptian regime is handling the threat posed by extremist Islamic groups is a recipe for more violence and a greater confrontation between the authorities and Islamists in general, which might spill over into the whole region of the Middle East. While we do not condone the bloodletting perpetrated by those radical groups against Egyptian targets, tourists and foreign investments, we see the counter-violence committed by the state as counterproductive in many ways.

Certainly, even if the extremist elements in the Egyptian society number 10,000 or 30,000 as the authorities claim, there is no justification for the security forces to shoot at will

at worshippers and suspected hideouts.

The killing of extremists or non-extremists will not deter those bent on opposing the regime in Cairo. The fact that the extremists are using ruthless methods in their fight against the state does not justify the latter's use of the same ways.

A recent report by the New York-based Middle East Watch human rights organisation described in disgusting detail the condition of Egyptian jails that have not changed since the late President Anwar Sadat was imprisoned in them by the British authorities in 1946.

The report tells of people, accused of being Muslim extremists, who have languished in those jails for 10 and 15' years without trial or even charges brought against them. Those elements are being tortured and denied any contact with their families or lawyers.

It is a foregone conclusion that Islamic unrest in the Arab and Muslim worlds is the result of failure by successive regimes to address the concerns of the masses. Egypt, the most populous Arab country and that possesses vast resources, including oil and the Suez Canal, has failed to ensure for the majority of its people decent living and for the state its rightful place among nations. Egypt, which led the Arab World in the crucial years of the 1960s, blundered on almost every level, especially on the fronts of war and peace. Neither the war it led in 1967 nor the peace it stened in 1979 provided any solution to the problems faced by its own people or the Arab World in general.

What the Egyptian authorities should be deing, instead of killing its opponents, is to give more freedom and legitimacy to the mainstream Muslim factions, especially the Brotherhood, who can give tremendous help in containing the splinter groups and neutralise their threat.

Egypt should also start addressing the rampant problems nd its should tackle the rampant corruption and also undertake a review of its regional and international roles. In particular Cairo needs to lead a resurgent Arab World into the new era that followed the Gulf war and resulted from the demise of the Soviet Union. It should start by using its clout to rally Arab ranks for a joint Arab stand in the face of the new challenges posed by the new world order.

Egyptian leaders should look at the current conflict on its soil not just with its immediate ramifications and implications. It needs to look at its present dilengua within its true historical context. History should tell Egyptian leaders that their great nation has been in slumber for long and that it is time the giant woke up.

Within such a framework the radicals and extremists of Egypt can be cut to size, if not totally eliminated from the

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'l Arabic daily Monday commented on His Majesty King Hussein's interview with the Chilean magazine, Cosas, describing his views as comprehensive as they covered a wide range of issues of concern to the whole world. Not so many national leaderships have the courage to air the views, as put forth by the King who, the paper said, had touched on the sensitive matters concerning the international community. In his statement, the King was careful to issue a warning against the continuation of the present world policies which tend to overlook the events of the past few years in our region, said the daily. The paper described the King's warning as representing mankind's cry for justice to be established and an end to further deterioration in the world situation. In referring to the duties of the U.N. Security Council, the King emphasised the need for a more equitable representation of various issues that should be debated fairly and justly, urging the council to be an international organisation in the true sense of the word, serving the whole world community and not merely the interests of those powers that achieved military victory in World War II, the paper continued. Domination by the major world powers over the destiny of the world organisation is bound to tempt them to impose hegemony over the whole world, the paper added. It said that these major powers have a serious responsibility for establishing world peace and security for all nations. helping to end all wars and conflicts. What is happening now in the wake of the collapse of the Communist empire, added the paper, is the exercise by the sole world superpower of its influence on the nations of the world, forcing them to serve its own selfish

Mahmond Rimawi, a columnist for Al Ra'i daily, said that something good has resulted from Israel's decision to expel the 415 Palestinians to South Lebanon. The expulsion has led to a pan-Arab consensus on condemning the Israeli crime and working towards fulfilling the national aspirations of the Palestinian people, said the writer. Furthermore, this issue awakened the conscience of the world community which has now realised the danger inherent in the occupation of Arab land. This, he said, was best ter ented in Security Council Resolution 799 which demanded the repatriation of the expellees. He said that the extra of the Palestinians more than three months ago exposed further time true nature of the U.S.-Israeli alliance and prompted Warmen a to call for an early resumption of the Arab-Israeli to be a some order to first a way out of this dilemma. The expulsion, the writer idde has unified the Palestinians and given to their momentum to the initifada in the face of Israel's apation. He said the Ista move to deport the Palestinians

has embarrassed the American administration, which is now the configure policies and are bound to harm U.S. interests of case only serve to unify Arab and Palestinian ranks vis-a-vis the common danger.

The View From Fourth Circle

The language of guns and knives

THERE IS a peculiar clarity in the language of blood, an incongruous message of hope that is hard to miss. The knives and the guns of Palestine speak loudly these days, and they speak of an impending peace. The sharp escalation in violence and death in Palestine and Israel during the last week will probably prove to be a good omen for progress in the Arab-Israeli peace talks later this year. In fact, I would expect this year to be decisive for the search for peace in Palestine, due to the convergence of three crucial trends since mid-century: the violence of the indigenous struggle in Palestine, the historical movement towards political and territorial compromise among Arabs and Israelis, and several crucial international trends that should prod a negotiated Arab-

The more audacious use of knives and guns by some Palesti-nians to confront the Israeli occupation is an historically significant qualitative shift in the nature of the Palestinian struggle for national rights. It is important because it comes at a time when Arabs and Israelis are (sort of) locked in a negotiation to resolve their disputes peacefully, and after five years of a relatively non-lethal, stone-throwing, street-based nationalistic uprising by the Palestinians against the Israeli occupation. The Palestinians' use of guns and knives now on an almost daily basis sends a dramatic message to Israel and to the rest of the world: We have reached the point of fearlessness, at which we risk almost certain death or life imprisonment, in challenging the Israeli occupation

In all modern nationalist struggles, this point of fearlessness was the crucial turning point in the struggle for independence and dignity. When the subjugated or occupied party no longer fears injury, jail, or death, the military power and moral frenzy of the dominant or occupying party lose their comparative advantage. This happened in many situations in recent decades, from Vietnam, Iran, the Philippines and Afghanistan, to Romania. South Africa, and Salma, Alabama, to mention only the most

The Israeli response to the heightened struggle for liberation by the Palestinians is pathetic, but very telling. The Israelis speak of an increase in Palestinian terrorism and violence, and they response by sending more troops to the occupied territories, imposing more stringent controls on the occupied Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, and urging settlers and other Israelis to

We see Israel and Zionism instinctively resort to the three primal elements of their modern history that have only brought

them further insecurity and violence:
1. Racism against Palestinians (and other Arabs) whom the Israelis will try to isolate as a convenient cheap labour pool that is somehow politically sanitized, nationalistically pacified, and militarily disarmed. This is an impossible task that was attempted and briefly achieved by many white South Africans, Rhodesians (Zimbabweans) and Americans against their own black populations, and by the British in Asia and the French in North Africa; but it collapsed ultimately because it was an unconscionable and mutually degrading racist phenomenon that could not be sustained in the face of the human spirit for freedom. It will not be

sustained in Palestine, either, regardless of the guns that Israel commands, because the intensity of the human will to live in freedom and dignity is far greater than the calibre inscribed on any bullet in the hands of an Israeli soldier.

2. Militarism. The instinctive Israeli/Zionist use of military force has become something of joke, were it not for the fact that Arabs and Israelis alike are being killed almost daily. But militarism has brought Israel only further insecurity, as hundreds of ordinary Israelis now carry guns on their hips when they leave their homes. Is this the sort of security that Israel claims to derive from its emphasis on militarism? Increasing the occupation battalions and using more severe tactics against Palestinians will only further escalate the Palestinian will to fight and to fight with increasingly lethal weapons.

If the current trend continues, it is only a matter of time before

The Israeli response to the heightened struggle for liberation by the Palestinians is pathetic, but very telling. The Israelis speak of an increase in Palestinian terrorism and violence, and they respond by sending more troops to the occupied territories, imposing more stringent controls on the occupied Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, and urging settlers and other Israelis to carry

some young men poison an Israeli water source or take their automatic weapons into a crowded Israeli street and shoot indiscriminately, aiming only to kill and injure as many Israelis/ Zionists as possible. This shall have been the logical consequence of a culture of militarism that Israel has not only adopted and championed, but also glorified and even sanctified. It will bring only death, not security, as we witness on a daily basis this week.

Turning to foreign support in the form of guns, money, and political protection. Israel has always been seen by the Arabs as an alien colonial outpost implanted in the Middle East by foreign force and design, and thus it has always relied on extensive support from outside the region to continue to exist in its present for. Instead of trying to establish its credibility and acceptance in the region by addressing the Palestinians and other Arabs with whom it must live, Israel finds it easier to portray the Arabs as irrational and violent Jewhaters who are also a threat to Western interests, and who must be confronted and checked by a combination of Israeli and Western power. The latest incarnation of this philosophy sees Israelis and Westerners, especially some Americans, fomenting intense fear of the Arab brand of Islam and Islamic militancy as a new global threat. It has always been

easier for Israelis/Zionists to use their power and influence to seek the backing of western politicians than to seek an accommodation with their Palestinian and Arab cousins and neighbours.

The Israelis turn to these three options yet again this week in what must be seen as a sad and pitiful cycle of their seemingly masochistic penchant for perpetual confrontation and violence. This cycle, however, is reaching an historic turning point, and the increased violence in Palestine in recent weeks is probably a

harbinger of significant political change, because it highlights the mutual futility and suffering that result from blind death.

Change is imminent because of two other important factors. The peace talks that started in Madrid in 1991 are a sign from both sides that the current battle cannot continue, and should be sides that the current pattle cannot continue, and should be resolved through negotiations. And, the changing geo-political scene in the rest of the world has vastly reduced the strategic importance of the Middle East. It is in the interest of the world today to resolve the Palestine conflict as a first step towards addressing the underlying course of anger and tention in the addressing the underlying causes of anger and tension in the

region.

The cost of conflict in this part of the world, in political and economic terms, has become greater than the risks of peace for most other countries (especially the industrialised North). Therefore the world will probably exert more pressure for a negotiated peace because such a settlement is very possible today.

The violence this week and month will be an important element

in eviolence this week and month will be an important element in pushing forward the peace process, because it will highlight the untenable nature of the current occupation — an occupation that in turn highlights the untenable nature of Israeli/Zionist colonialism. It is ironic, but perhaps appropriate, that Yitzhak Rabin should be prime minister of Israel today and the person who has to confront the large different that faces his necessary that to confront the large dilemma that faces his people; that greater stress on military security increases the insecurity, of a people that now has to walk around its own country carrying guns and looking over its shoulders for the knives of the Arab people they occupy

Mr. Rabin was the man who used massive force in the 1970s and 1980s in an obviously futile attempt to quash the resistance that represented the Palestinian quest for national affirmation. and he confronts the same situation today. His resort to racism, militarism, and foreign support will not work. Only coming to terms with the reality of Palestinian national identity and the vitality of the Arab/Islamic culture of this region can provide Mr. Rabin, Israel and the world's Jewish people with the one element they have always craved but never secured in Palestine in mordern history — a normal existence, as one of many national communities living together in a region that has always accommodated them all within a framework of cultural and religious

If Mr. Rabin wants to go down in history as a great leader, he should put away his gun manual and take out his history books. If he does not believe us, he should listen to the language of the guns and the knives that he has spawned in Palestine.

@ / RAMI G. KHOURI

"Allah has stated in the Koran

that Allah will open and facilitate

san, his bearded face masked

things are concerned, we have confidence in Allah Makes our

task easy. We are not left help-

less, our problems are solved

political support to the militants,

it would make little difference, he

pending on our own power. We

have to take it to its conclusion

with our blood," Mr. Hassan

that sees paradise in the barrel of

the gun," said a colleague who

declined to give his name.

"No one can suppress a nation

JKLF spearheaded the revolt

in Indian Kashmir in which more

than 9,000 people have been kil-

led, but later lost ground to the

Hezb, regarded by Kashmiris as

the main recipient of Pakistani

help.
The JKLF aim to reunite Kashindependent state

rather than join Pakistan has

bloody battles with the JKLF in

the Indian-ruled Kashmir valley

before the two agreed last De-

cember to set aside their differ-

"We have compromised

against a common enemy add

now there is no fight between the

ences for the time being.

The Hezb fought several

angered Islamabad.

Even if Pakistan stopped its

"We started this movement de-

"So far as resources and other

with a cloth.

automatically."

said.



Russia's pover struggle

Security ministers will decide Yeltsin's fate

By Oliver Wates

Reuter

MOSCOW - In the end, of course, it all comes down to which side the men with the guns support.
Will the army and security

forces back President Boris Yelfsin's rule-by-decree declaration of Saturday night? Or will they side with Vice-

President Alexander Rutskoi, the head of the constitutional court and the Russian parliament in rejecting the move as unconstitu-If they endorse Mr. Yeltsin's

plans for a referendum on who rules Russia and a new constitution, then the Congress of People's Deputies, the supreme legislature, seems doomed. A new parliament would be elected. If they back parliament, then Mr. Yeltsin, like Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev before him, is

politically finished. Mr. Yeltsin effectively declared presidential rule on Saturday night, telling the 150 million Russian citizens that anything contradicting his orders had no

Parliament, faced with a death warrant, can be expected to issue its counter-orders, based on its position in the much-amended constitution. A clash between the two sets of orders will come. sooner rather than later.

Defence Minister Pavel Grachev, Security Minister Viktor Barannikov and Interior Minister Viktor Yerin were all appointed by Mr. Yeltsin.

Career officials in the army and police, they have been careful to avoid taking sides publicly. Mr. Yeltsin stressed in his decree that

he had ordered the military to stay out of politics. Military leaders seem desper-

ate to avoid the nightmare of a split of the armed forces, leading to civil war and even nuclear conflagration.

During the last confrontation between Mr. Yeltsin and congress in December, all three ministers appeared before the legislature to pledge their alle-giance to the constitution.

On the face of it, this would mean supporting parliament and congress. But Mr. Yeltsin left the door open for a different interpretation, seeking to justify his action by the need to defend the basic principles of constitutional-

"The congress and Supreme Soviet (parliament) declare any decision they take constitutional. nothing can stop them, no one can hold them back from lawless despotism," he said in his television address.

The constitutional court had failed to stop this, he said. Mr. Yeltsin's decree, according to extracts published bty RIA news agency, repeatedly stressed his concern to preserve constitu-

tional order. The president is appealing to the body politic to put loyalty to himself as Russia's first ever democratically elected president above loyalty to a Communist-era constitution repeatedly amended by a congress dominated by ex-

Acting Parliament Head Yuri Voronin told reporters on Saturday that he had spoken to Mr. Grachev and Mr. Yerin and both had pledged to respect the constitution.

But a senior Yeltsin aide, who asked not to be named, told

Reuters: "We have no concerns (about the two ministers), they are ready and waiting to maintain order if necessary

Constitutional Court Chairman Valery Zorkin sounded a note of alarm in a brief television statement in the early hours of Sunday, saying he had been unable to contact Mr. Barannikov.

"This is the first time in my experience that the security minister cannot be contacted via the special phone link. This makes me ask: Where was he?... It makes you think," he said. Even if the three "power" ministers support him, Mr. Yeltsin could have serious difficulties making his referendum plan stick in Russia's increasingly restive

regions and ethnic republics. Some republican leaders have already declared they will not hold any such vote on the grounds that it would infringe their rights of autonomy and many others have doubts about

Mr. Rutskoi said Saturday that the president's plan would lead to conflict and bloodshed, a view shared by many senior politi-

Mr. Yeltsin sought to ease regional sensibilities by declaring that his decree did not affect the federation treaty, a 1992 agreement guaranteeing the autonomy rights of the republics.

He also sacked several regional officials, including administration chiefs in Irkutsk and Novosibirsk. for breach of existing legislation. Whatever the outcome, Mr.

Yeltsin's move seems likely to force a showdown in the longrunning power struggle which has paralysed Russian politics, put off Western investors and hampered

A war of faith

Despite their dwindling supplies, Kashmiri militants wage their battle against India with the belief that God is on their side

By Raja Asghar

MUZAFFARABAD, Pakistan Indian Kashmir. - Commander Ahmad Hassan militants to win their armed struggle, Jihad, against India even if their vital backer Pakistan bows to U.S. threats and stops giving

"We did not consult America or Pakistan when we started the Kashmir Liberation Movement. We depend on Aliah and with his blessing we will win this war." Mr. Hassan said in an interview.

But the Muslim militants, fighting for four years to secode from India, may have lost their most important source of support with a U.S. decision early this year to place Pakistan on a watch list of states allegedly sponsoring terror-

Both Mr. Hassan's fundamentalist Hezb-U.l-Mujahideen and the moderate Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) put on a bold face in dismissing the risk to their. armed movement.

However, caption, or fear of the U.S. threat, keeps the militants from any show of the arms or bravado they once displayed in Muzaffarabad, capital of Azad (free) Kashmir, the Pakistan-ruled one-third of their disputed Himalayan region.
India rules the other two-thirds

of Kashmir, over which the two countries have fought two of their three wars since independence from Britain in 1947.

The U.S. State Department said in January the Clinton administration would review within four to six months reports that Pakistan was supporting Kash-miri and Sikh militants "who commit terrorist acts in India." . Kashmiris voice fears Pakis-

tan's haste to persuade Washington it is not involved will deal a serious blow to the four-year-old uprising in India's only Muslimmajority state by militants seeking independence or union with Islamic Pakistan. amic Pakistan.

Pakistan denies Indian charges of training and arming the militants, saying it gives only moral and political support to what it calls Kashmiri "freedom fighters" Militant leaders who just a year

ago would proudly show their fighters to reporters now refuse to be photographed with their weapons and deny the U.S. charges of training camps for fighters tucked among Kashmir's

rugged mountains.
"We don't want to be called terrorists," said an official of one militant group as he waved away a goard carrying a Kalashnikov assault rifle during an interview. Most leaders hotly deny that

they drill fighters in Azad Kash- for Hezb Ul Mujahedeen,, which mir and insist the training takes wants the state to join Pakistan. place across the porous border in

However, a few individual the path for those who wage believes God will help Kashmiri fighters acknowledge they were Jihad in his way," said Mr. Hastrained in Azad Kashmir by private instructors. Islamabad says the U.S. action

poses a serious threat to relations between the two longtime allies but has expressed confidence it will not join Libya, Iran, Syria, North Korea, Iraq and Cuba on the U.S. terrorism list. Ties between Islamabad and

Washington have soured since the United States cut off all military and new economic aid to Pakistan in 1990 on the suspicion it was making nuclear weapons. But Kashmir has been an emotive issue in Pakistan since the territorial dispute erupted more

than 45 years ago. A government in Islamabad that tried to out a total stop to the flow of arms to the militants or restrict their activities in Azad Kashmir would be committing political spicide.

"I think the government is not in a position to restrict this movement." Raja Muzaffar, vicepresident of the pro-independence JKLF, said in an interview. "The people of Pakistan are very emotional about

Muzaffar called the U.S. threat unjustified, saying Kashmiris were fighting for their "basic right of self-determination" that deserved the support rather than the opposition of the world's

leading democracy.

"If the world wants them to lay down arms, then their basic demand for independence must be

The Kashmir uprising is a war

two groups," Mr. Muzaffar said.
Their first aim was to drive out
India and to leave a decision dn Kashmir's future to its people.

LETTERS

Setting the record straight To the Editor:

IN a news brief published in the Jordan Times on March 9, you attributed a letter sent to the Pope by the International Anti-Zionism Front (IAZF) to a local society against Zionism and racism. The letter sent to the Pope suggesting the creation of Vatican Arab committees along the lines of the Vatican Israeli committee was written by the International Anti-Zionism Front, which was established in 1989.

The front, which is headed by Russian professor Alexander Romaninko and represented in Amman by Mr. Marwan Sudah, is not connected to the local Jordanian society against Zionism.

which was formed in Amman earlier this month. We regret that you overlooked the fact that our front had sent this important message and attributed it to another society

> Marwan Sudah, Amman.

Yeltsin camp claims support

(Continued from page 1)

ask people whether he or legislators should rule Russia. Valery Zorkin, chairman of the constitutional court, immediately called Mr. Yeltsin's actions an attemp-

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The 247-member Supreme Soviet standing legislature, in an emergency session Sunday night, voted 125-16 to ask the constitutional court to review the legality of Mr. Yeltsin's actions.

The United States and many other Western nations have endorsed Mr. Yeltsin's actions, believing Russia's democratic reforms are at stake.

Mr. Yeltsin's office said the president remained in Moscow on Monday. His 85-year-old mother died Sunday in Yekaterindurs, and she reportedly was to be buried in Mosocow.

Mr. Kostikov lambasted Mr. Zorkin for criticising Mr. Yeltsin before convening the court to consider the case. The spokesman also praised the army for

staying out of the dispute. "The population welcomed with understanding the president's proposals toward resolving the crisis," Mr. Kostikov said.

"The proposals voiced in the president's appeal to the citizens of Russia are finding a growing support in the country," he said. without citing evidence.

Public reaction has been mixed, on Sunday, pro and anti-Yeltsin demonstrations each drew about 5,000 people. Reform-minded political groups and adminsitrators and some business people have endorsed the presidents' stand, whilke more hardline politicians and Russians oppose it.

About 200 anti-Yeltsin demonstrators protested in the rain outside the Russian parliament building on Monday, but Mos-

(Continued from page 1)

Yousef Al'Athem, a promin-

ent Muslim Brotherhood depu-

ty in the House, declined to

comment on the movement's

options. All he would say was:

of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker is

Pressed on how his bloc

viewed the government move

to defer the law until the 11th

hour, Mr. Athem said: "I pre-

- fer not to answer that ques-

Notwithstanding the anti-

-: alcohol arguments, any ban on

production and consumption

of alcoholic beverages would

economy, according to a study

The study, prepared by dis-tilleries and breweries in Jor-

dan in a campaign to block the Brotherhood-led move in Par-

hament, estimated that over

million a year, and paid JD 6

million in excise fees and re-

lated charges to the treasury in 1991 in addition to earning JD

. 6 million in foreign currency

Beyond the economic con-

siderations, the ban was also

fought on the House floor by

deputies Tarawneh and Nabul-

violation of "the freedom of

choice of individuals guaran-

elim and Christian deputies

agreed with this viewpoint re-

Although many other Mus-

teed by the Constitution."

on grounds that it was a

through exports.

2- JD 25 million were invested in

the industry, which employs over 700 people who earn JD 1

.- made last year.

committed to its obligations.

We hope that the government

cow's streets otherwise were

Mr. Kostikov accused Mr. Yeltsin's political foes of trying to "heighten tensions by hasty and legally baseless actions do not find a response among the population.'

The Constitutional court did not rule Monday on the constitu-tionality of Mr. Yeltsin's deci-

Mr. Zorkin held out the possibility that a compromise was possible between Mr. Yeltsin and legislators. He said he hoped "the president will revise his artitude to the constitutional court and the congress of people's deputies."

The constitutional court had begun an informal review before the Supreme Soviet vote because it considered Mr. Yeltsin's address "an attempt to cross out the basic principles of the constitution, primarily the principle of the division of powers," court spokesman told the ITAR-

TASS news agency earlier. Mr. Kostikov dismissed the constitutional court's deliberations, noting "the hasty and unilateral stand" of Mr. Zorkin. "Thus, the chairman of the constitutional court has a priori

sides, casting doubt on his own impartiality," Mr. Kostikov said. Mr. Yeltsin said he would ask voters to approve a constitution to replace the Soviet-era charter,

adopted the position of one of the

effectively disbanding the communist dominated congress and scheduling legislative elections. Mr. Kostikov noted that the army was obeying Mr. Yeltsin's

order to stay out of the political "In spite of efforts by certain

circles in the Supreme Soviet to draw the military into the confrontation, the army is preserving its loyalty to the law," he said. Mr. Kostikov praised Western

with their stand.

against banning alcohol," said a lawmaker well-known for his

controversial comments on the

House floor. "Most of my con-

stituents are lower-middle class

religious people and they

on condition of anonymity.

would spit at me if I said I oppose prohibition and the country," he added, speaking

According to a version of the

draft law published in the local

press, the legislation would

ban production of alcohol in

the country in any form and

distilleries and breweries, and

familiar with the draft law de-

scribed as largely accurate,

said the legislation would pro-

hibit all importation of liquor

except for hotels and "tour-

serving would be restricted to

Distilleries, breweries and li-

quor stores as well as present

importers would be allowed a

period of six months to li-

quidate themselves. They can

export their stocks during this

The draft law also bans serv-

ing of alcohol at private parties

and lays down a set of punish-

ment for violators ranging be-

tween one and three years in

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foreign tourists.

period.

facilities where alcohol

The report, which an official

all permits given to bars.

A unilateral Israeli with-Push against alcohol gains ground gardless of their personal approach to alcohol consumption or abstention, they balked and still balk at going public "I will be committing politica member of the PLO. al suicide if I adopt a stand

'Some people might even think of announcing a state in Gaza because it would be the first liberated land of Pales-

pen because then the Israelis argue that Palestine exists in Gaza and make an international case to drop the issue of

Talk of withdrawal, PLO officials say, is "very premature." They argue that Israel will use a commitment to "totally withdraw" from Gaza

cessions from the Palestinians. PLO sources believe that in the final analysis there will be, or there will have to be, a total Israeli withdrawai which in-

ments in the Gaza Strip. "They will try to use their withdrawal from Gaza, which they badly want to do anyway, as a propaganda tool," said the

negotiating team. In return for this withdrawal they will try to obtain ter-

and Jerusalem. A West Bank "territorial settlement" that would include areas in and around the cities of Nablus. Ramallah and HebApril 3-4 summit.

Senate minority leader Robert Dole suggested Sunday that Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Clinton meet in Moscow instead of Vancouver, Canada, as scheduled.

Earlier Monday in Washington, Clinton spokesman Dee Dee Myers said the White House would consider moving the summit to Moscow if Mr. Yeltsin deemed it necessary - but had no current plans to do so.

the PLO Executive Committee

speaking on condition of

A recent article printed in an

Israeli newspaper were accom-

panied by a map showing

Israel's version of a "territorial

settlement" with the Palesti-

nians. The map includes the

cities and environs of Nablus.

While no Palestinian official

Ramaliah and Hebron only.

involved with the negotiations

agreed to go on-the-record ab-

out the map, several admitted

that the map was what the

be ruled by the Palestinians and the West Bank will be

'cantonised' according to the

Israelis." said the PLO Execu-

that such a plan is a "maximal-

ist" position of the Israelis

which "will have to change" if

there is to be peace between

the Israelis and the Palesti-

able to us. U.N. resolutions

242 and 338 certainly do not

call for such a solution," said

the advisor to the negotiating

about what the West Bank will

took like once the negotiations

are finalised, Hamas is concen-

trating more on the Gaza

Worried that the PLO "will send in a PLO-controlled

Palestinian police force" to run

the violence-ridden strip,

Hamas repeated its call for the entry of "U.N. peace-keeping

forces" into the strip to over-

was handed over to the U.N.

instead of a Palestinian police

force, because then we would be assured of fair elections.

said a spokesman of Hamas on

the PLO appeared to grow as a

PLO-Hamas dialogue came to

"flattering Hamas" at this

court Hamas right now. We

have to worry about the

Israelis and their plans for our

lands," said the PLO Execu-

The advisor to the negotiat-

lestinians were in a "catch-

"We can't withdraw from

the talks because if they with-

draw from Gaza unilaterally

allowing chaos to rule and be-

gan an overnight building

boom of settlements in the

West Bank, we will have no-

thing left to negotiate by the

time we get them to a negotiat-

ing stage again," said the advi-sor. "On the other hand if we

stay in the negotiating game we

may not be offered more than

some cantons and such a solu-

tion will be opposed by our

people and it will be contrary

to international law.

ing team confirmed that the

tive Committee member.

22" situation.

The rift between Hamas and

The PLO is not interested in

"We are not going to

condition of anonymity.

a standstill last week.

stage.

"We prefer if the Gaza Strip

see elections.

aspect of the negotiations.

While the PLO is worried

"Such a plan is not accept-

But Palestinian officials say

tive Committee member.

Palestinians.

'Israelis have in mind for the

"Gaza will be vacated and

anonymity from Tunis.

Palestinians debate Gaza prospects mind, said a senior member of

(Continued from page 1)

political leaders who have expressed support for Mr. Yeltsin,

saying this demonstrated that the

president's actions were "legally

President Bill Clinton said he has

no plans to change the location of

Mr. Clinton told reporters he

Mr. Clinton, who was in Little

Rock to visit his ailing father-in-

law Hugh Rodham, was asked by

had "no plans to change the site

the summit with Mr. Yeltsin.

at this time."

In Little Rock, Arkansas, Ú.S.

Palestinians now have little doubt that the Israelis "will withdraw fully from the strip.'

Yossi Sarid, Israel's minister of environment, called last week for a quick Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip. "Israel is not interested in governing Gaza and will hand Gaza over, as quickly as possible," said Mr. Sarid, a senior member of the Meretz bloc in

the Israeli parliament.
Mr. Sarid added that such a withdrawal should come in the framework of a "peace agreement, and not unilaterally."

Palestinian politicians agree with the Israelis on the issue of withdrawal in the framework of a all-encompassing agree-

ment.
"We believe that a unilateral withdrawal from Gaza would be counter-productive to our interests," said a spokesman for the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) in Am-

"We want a withdrawal from the Gaza Strip to come about as part of a full-fledged framework for Israeli departure from all the occupied territories," said Hamas spokesman Mohammad Nazzal.

drawal from Gaza would adversely affect energy and resources of the poverty-stricken strip and deflect attention from the West Bank and Jerusalem, said Mr. Nazzal, who is a spokesman for one of the few Palestinian groups which is not

tine," Mr. Nazzal said.
"We don't want this to hap-

withdrawing from the West Bank and Jerusalem," Mr. Nazzal added.

to obtain other territorial con-

cludes dismantling the settle-

advisor to the Palestinian

ritorial concessions from the Palestinians in the West Bank

ron is what the Israelis have in

reporters whether he would consider changing the site of the FBI said searching for new figure in blast

tre bombing bad expanded to include an engineer who has lived in Brooklyn and Iraq, according to a newspaper report.

New York Newsday said the U.S. Justice Department is looking for Musad Yasin in connection with the Feb. 26 bombing. "He hasn't been charged with

anything so I'm not going to comment," Joe Valiquette. spokesman for the New York Federal Bureau of Investigations office, told the newspaper's Sunday edition. City records show that a man

named Musad Yasin had a taxi driver's licence from 1984-1990. He was born in Indianapolis and lived in Iraq for four years, Newsdav reported.

A 1992 New Jersey telephone listing shows a "M. Yasin" residing in the same building as Mohammad Salameh, a man indicted in the bombing that killed six and injured more than 1,000,

NEW YORK (AP) — The list of Newsday said.

Abdul Kader Kallash, who is active in the city's Muslim community, told the newspaper that he had not seen Mr. Yasin in

some time and that he believed authorities were looking for him. Salameh and Mahmud Abouhalima, another former taxi driver wanted for questioning by federal officials, were seen together at a New York area gasoline station the night before the blast, investigators told Newsweek. Mr. Abouhalima has

vanished. Mr. Salameh is being

held without bail. The FBI is searching for Mr. Abouhalima, a 33-year-old Egyptian immigrant, whom authorities have described as a ringleader of

the bombing.

Mr. Abouhalima reportedly fled New York on March 6 eight days after the deadly blast beneath one of the two World Trade Centre 117-storey towers and two days after the arrest of Mr. Salameh.

Israeli soldiers kill 3 in Gaza

(Continued from page 1)

the bones of Arab demonstrators at the outbreak of the intifada. Three Palestinians were reported shot dead by troops Monday in the Gaza Strip. Arab reports said one victim was a mentally retarded 11-year-old who was playing with a toy gun.
In the town of Khan Younis in

the strip, soldiers shot dead a muezzin, a Muslim who calls worshippers to praver at the mosque. Palestinian sources said.

They said an Israeli army sniper aimed a rifle with a telescopic sight at Jihad Mustafa Ali Sadek. 22. and shot him in the back while he was standing at the top of his mosque's minaret.

In the Nusseirat refugee camp soldiers shot Yasser Al Maidalawi. 23. in the chest after dusk as Muslims broke the daytime fast for the Holy Month of Ramadan, Palestinians said. He died of his wounds in Shifa hospital, they

Mr. Rabin replying in parliament to right-wing motions of no-confidence a few hours after a Palestinian walked into a high school in Jernsalem and slashed five pupils and their principal. None was seriously wounded,

but it was the 10th knife assault lent public retaliation and rightwing demands that the Rabin government admit failure and

Mr. Rabin's coalition was expected to defeat the noconfidence motions in a vote later Monday.

To derisive opposition heck-ling, Mr. Rabin said he was confident the Palestinians would attend the next round of peace talks April 20.

"I believe that we will get through this difficult period and that in 1993 we will see significant change, both from the political and security standpoints," he

Unlike previous prime minis-ters, who have portrayed Palestinian militants as a hardcore unsupported by the broad populace, Mr. Rabin's appraisal was blunt and sober. "Let's present the picture as it is, even if it hurts,"

"Let's speak the truth, it is a conflict between two different entities — religious, political, you could say national.... most of the Palestinian public identifies with them (the attackers) and their

.alsog He said his government was

deploying up to 2,000 extra nolicemen, but "we cannot put a policeman in every place where a

stabber shows up. The 71-year-old ex-general indicated concern that Israelis were losing their will to resist, noting that the civil guard had fallen from 150,000 volunteers in the 1970s to under 50,000 today.

Had the guard at the school gate been armed, as the law required, "the knifer would have otten what he deserved," Mr. Rabin said.

Right-wing politicians called during the parliamentary debate for a freer hand to deal with

"Give the tools to the army and to civilians and give the people hope," demanded Benjamin Netanyahu, a front-runner for leadeship of the opposition Likud Party in a faction election set for The assailant, 22-year-old Nas-

ser Hamdan Shekirat from the Arab suburb of Jabal Mukaber, walked into the J.F. Kennedy High School in the nearby Jewish suburb of Talpiot just as pupils gathered for classes.

Witnesses said he shouted "allahu Akbar" and began slashing with a knife.

The school guard overpowered him, armed with a chair and aided by the principal, police "rescued" Shkeirat from a first flailing mob and took him to the hospital with a minor head injury. Police said Shkeirat had a prison record for throwing fire bombs

After the Jerusalem incident, angry pupils and neighbours shouted "Death to the Arabs" and stoned Arab cars, Israel radio reported.

Mr. Rabin told reporters in Gaza a unilateral Gaza withdrawal, advocated by at least three ministers in his 18-member cabinet, was "out of the question today." A pullout would have to wait for a negotiated accord with the Palestinians.

Zimmerman, who also saw ac tion in Lebanon after then-Defence Minister Ariel Sharon's 1982 ill-fated invasion, said:

"Sharon kept us in Lebanon waiting for a peace treaty, but Israelis kept dying, and in a few years we couldn't take it anymore we just left, without a treaty,

without anything.
"It's just like Lebanon now,"
the corporal said, shielding his
eyes from the brilliant Gaza sun.

Lawyers of Egyptian cleric to boycott his trial

CAIRO (R) — Lawyers for Mus-lim preacher Sheikh Omar Abdul or Omar at a time all the Islam-Rahman decided Monday to boycott a new trial set by the Egyptian government, saying it was part of a campaign to finish of Islamic militants.

"We have decided to boycott in view of the climate and the situation surrounding us .. which are unjust. In any case, they (government) will issue the verdict they want whether we attend or not. lawyer Adel Aymouni told Reu-

The government accuses Sheikh Abdul Rahman, who fled to the United States in 1991, of leading a militant group that has attacked police, Christians and tourists in a war to establish a purist Islamic caliphate in Egypt.

Three men arrested in the United States after last month's bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York have also been allegedly linked with Sheikh

Abdul Rahman. Mr. Aymouni said Sunday notguilty verdicts passed on the blind preacher and 49 alleged militants in 1990 after anti-government violence in the oasis of Fayoum had been cancelled and the case

Rahman's absence next month. The lawyer said Monday the boycott was "an expression of anger" at the government's deci-

would be retried in Sheikh Abdul

sion and he and four other lawvers of Sheikh Rahman had agreed not to attend. 'This decision is part of an

President Anwar Sadat in 1981, fled Egypt after the Fayoum case in 1990 and settled in New York. If the re-trial finds him guilty, judicial sources said the government could seek his extradition. A U.S. court has already ruled

ists in the country are being hit.

This is a war against us ... on

what basis they want to try Sheikh Omar in the same judicial

court which issued a verdict proc-

laiming him innocent three years

Sheikh Omar. The ruling regime wants to destroy Sheikh Omar

and his (Islamic) call. This is the

him back to trial," he added.

Mr. Aymouni said Sheikh Abdul Rahman had been in-

formed two months ago that the

government cancelled the 1990

verdict and decided to re-try him

again. But the blind preacher told

them he would not attend "be-

cause in Egypt they have no

was tried but acquitted of blessing

the assassination of Egyptian

Sheikh Abdul Rahman, who

respect for the law.'

main objective behind putting

This a plot to incriminate

ago?" Mr. Aymouni asked.

that he should not have been granted a residence permit. The Egyptian government mounted an all-out war on mili-

Palestinians upbeat after U.S. letter

The deal, aimed at defusing the ed upbeat. "We expect things to move within the coming few

days," he told the Jordan Times without elaboration. Mr. Husseini said the Palestinian side had responded to Fri-

day's American message affirming the delegation's visit to Washington and covering "some of the points tackled in the letter from the U.S." The exchange of message was done through the American ambassador in Tunis. The Palestinian reply, Mr.

Husseini said, "includes the requirements which we view as most necessary for the success of the peace process." Mr. Husseini said the Amer-

ican letter "indicated that; some positive measures would be taken soon.'

Tunis-based PLO officials said the American letter urged Palestinians to seize "the historic chance of achieving peace" and offered reassurances that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. who held talks with President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Washington last week, was "serious in his approach towards the peace pro-

The American letter also expressed Washington's concern to ensure that progress is made on all tracks of negotiations between Israel and the Arabs, and assured the Palestinians that separate peace treaties between other Arab parties and Israel outside the framework of a comprehensive peace agreement were not

likely.

A similar American letter was also delivered to other Arab states such as Morocco and Egypt, which were exerting efforts to bring the Americans and Israel to approve a six-point compromise deal formulated and agreed in principle between Palestinians and Mr. Christopher during his visit to the Middle East last month.

tants this month, killing 28 suspects in raids and putting 49 on trial in a military court for attacks on foreigners that have ravaged the tourist industry.

(Continued from page 1)

expellee crisis which has stalled the peace process, included Palestinian demands for Israeli commitments not to resort to expulsion in the future and to the principle of land in exchange for peace as enshrined in U.N. Security Council resolutions 242

and 338. Mr. Husseini and other Palestinian delegates accompanying him to Washington "will seek to follow up on the demand concerning 242 and 338, and thus improve the terms of reference for the

peace talks," said a Tunis-based PLO official. The official said the Palesti- at nians were informed through jthird parties that Israel would n refrain from expelling Palesti- r. nians, but that its commitment of would remain unannounced. He n also said that Israel would accept at speeding up the return of the 400 3 expellees and might increase the ir number of the first batch of ex-

pellees allowed to return from the 101 it has proposed. According to Mr. Abed Rab-"the Palestinian delegation will discuss the expellee crisis 1with American officials and seek 🛎 unequivocal assurances that Re- .0

solution 242 applies to all occupied Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem."
While Mr. Abed Rabbo declined to elaborate further, the Tunis-based PLO officials said

the Palestinians were not insisting that Israel undertake such a commitment to 242 in public. They (Israelis) could provide

American-arranged guarantee d to this effect and we would accept it," the official said. Parallel to the Washington 15

talks, representatives of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinians will meet in Damascus to come up with a collective response to the American-Russian letters of invitations to the April 20 talks.

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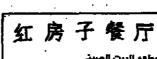
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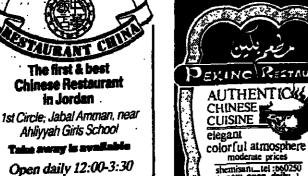






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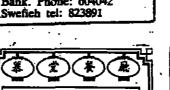
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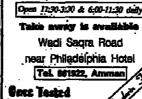
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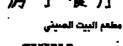
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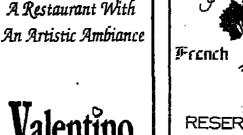
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Jordan meets Malaysia in Davis Cup playoff

By Alcen Bannayan Special to the Jordan Times

ANIMAN — Jordan's national Consisteam Friday meets its Malaysian counterpart in the playoff of the 1993 Davis Cup

competition. The Kingdom's team lost to Iran in February in the first round of the competition. Iran won 5-0 and qualified for the second wind in which they will face Coma-

The matches against Malaysia, held under the patrenage of her Majesty Queen Noor at the Jordan Tennis Federation (JTF) courts. March 26-28, are of utmost importance for the Jordanian team, as the winner will sercure a place in the Asia-Oceania Zone Group 2 while the loser will be relegated to Group 3 in 1994.

Malaysia beat Jordan in the two previous Davis Cup meets. They won 5-0 in 1990 and 4-1

In the first round matches against Iran, the Jordanian team seemed to lose its rhythm after the first day of competition. Jordan's top-ranked Hani Al Ali suffered a muscle cramp after he was leading the match. All later pulled out of the doubles team with teammate Imad Abu Hamda. The younger members of the team, Faris and Laith Al Azzouni were no match for the older, more experienced Iranian



Saleh Bushnag



Yousef Oreibi

At the time, team members and coaches said that they were not well prepared to play 5-set matches. The team also complained that they did not have any warm up matches against other teams prior to meeting the semi-professional

After their disappointing result against Iran, team head coach Yousef Oreibi stressed the importance of upgrading the players' physical fitness. According to JIF official Jamal Nafa' that is what the team has been doing for the past month.

Nevertheless, and despite the players' previous com-plaints of the lack of friendly matches prior to actual competition, the team has only had regular training sessions, but no friendly matches.

Jordan's second ranked Abu Hamda Monday told the Jordan Times that the players had been training as much as they could, but added that he would have preferred to be better prepared against a team like Malaysia.

Abu Hamda, who is a fifth ear medical student at the University of Jordan said he was quite busy with his studies, and had been training regularly for the past three weeks.

The Jordanian team now

comprises Ali, Abu Hamda, Faris Al Azzouni and Saleh Bushnaq. The team captain is Dr. Hanna Kawar.

The Malaysian team will be without top-ranked Adam Malek. The team includes Ramayah Ramachandran, Terence Chia, Rahizam Abdul Rahim and Shnane Gool, the team captain is Mohammad Khairuddin Baharom.

Officiating the matches will be International Tennis Federation referee George Grime from Britain.

Sampras beats Washington in Lipton final

KEY BISCAYNE (R) - Pete Sampras shrugged off the effects of painful shin splints Sunday to overpower 14th-seeded Malivai Washington 6-3, 6-2 in an all-American final at the \$3 million Lipton Championships.

The 10-day tournament had been plagued by a multitude of problems — wind, rain and a stadium court whose surface began peeling off and interrupted play for parts of two days. But the final was played under blue skies and Sampras shined bright in the one-hour 23-minute final.

The second-seeded Samoras ranked number two in the world, earned \$208,900. Washington received \$110,000 as runner-up. Sampras played the match with his left leg wrapped because of his

shin splints, a chronic injury. "I felt it quite a lot." said Sampras, who will have the next two weeks off before heading to the Japan Open in Tokyo. "It's gotten worse and worse on the hardcourt with the pounding and pounding.'

Sampras also complained about not getting enough foot sup-port from his tennis shoes but said: "My job is to go out and play. Playing with pain is not a lot

The 18th-ranked Washington tried everything but could not match up to Sampras. He attemp ted to make his mark at the net. but Sampras would pass him with ease. He staved at the baseline in an effort to rally, but Sampras would take the initiative and. move to the net.

"I thought be passed well to-day," said Washington, who has won only one set from Sampras in five meetings. "He was passing pretty well on both sides, espe-cially the forehand."

Sampras struggled to find his rhythm in the beginning; offering Washington two break points in both the first and third games of



Pete Sampras

the first set. "I was rushing a little bit too much in the beginning," said Sampras. "I was going for the big shots and was making too many

Washington failed to take advantage of eight break point opportunities in the match.

difference if I converted on one of the early break points," said Washington, who also was a final-January. "When he's rolling, he's rolling. I just wasn't able to break

Sampras served 49 aces during

the tournament - six in the final. Although Sampras was not happy with his serve Sunday, it came through when he needed it.

Washington helped Sampras capture his first break opportunity by hitting a forehand long at 15-40 in the sixth game of the first set. A forehand welley on his "I think it would have made a second set point in the ninth game put Sampras ahead.

Sampras raced to a 4-0 lead in the second set, despite facing ist at Auckland, New Zealand, in three break points in the fourth game. At 0-40, Sampras found five big serves — the last two points were an ace and service winner - to save the game.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY MARCH 23, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Get out into the business world early today and avoid arguments on the home front. Be sure to dress well so that others will be impressed

and get those new interests in gear so you can start enjoying them. ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) If you don't let an obligation get in the way of your progress you will to gain your fondest aspirations.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Your base of operation can be greatly improved if you keep away from a demanding person who likes to comfront you with un-

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Now your mind is working over-time on the ways and means to get out in the world and get contacts there to give you a boost where you need it.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You have a day to consider best how to add to your revenue and your assets but can be held back if you if you go off to frivo-

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your charm is high, your ideas for gaining whatever is of a personal nature that you desire and only by sitting around the house lazing do you miss out on benefits.

VIRGO: (August 22 to Septembe 22) Get off by yourself for awhile and consider what your most

potential opportunities can be by adopting a greater breadth of vision, less focus upon details.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Consider seeing as many of your friends and acquaintances as possible and getting them interested in a personal project that means a great deal to you. SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

own personal urges. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A day to be off and away to all sorts of new interests and contacts that you add to your growth and development, sidestep a thorny problem.

ber 21) A good day to get those outside responsibilities that may not turn you on but that must be

done sometime and forget your

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) If you don't pursue some long time wish that is not yet maturing you will be able to get all sorts of interests of a constructive nature well attended to.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You need to show an outside associate that you pay attention to that persons ideas and activities now and don't get in-volved with a bitter bigwig.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You have many good ideas for increasing the harmony and the operative skill at your surroundings so stay close and perfect these

Milan finally upset

ROME (R) — The gods of Italian soccer, AC Milan, have finally been forced to rejoin the earth-bound ranks of the lesser mortals of

Having been shorn of the Crown of invincibility in an Italy cup match 10 days earlier, Milan's home defeat by Parma Sunday ended their record run of 58 ur eaten league games and killed off their 'dream of remaining is mortal for another season.

Their 1-0 loss dor mated Italy's sports pages Monday, with Milan daily "Corriere" alla Sera" heralding "The fall of the gods." Sports dail: "Gazzet a Dello Sport" said "Milan come down to Earth." C. combian Fausto Asprilla will be remembered was the man who

His 58th minute direct free-kick was all that separated the teams, but it was enough to earn Parma a famous victory and ensure Milan failed to negotiate a second successive season without a league Firms coach Nevio Scala had no doubt that his side deserved it.

"Ou: win against Milan was on the cards, and I don't say that out of presumption but simply because the side is in great form at the moment," he said. Purma, ire wally the the fear Milan beat at the start of their Itanian record after their tast defeat at Bari May 19, 1991, have been

'European Cun Winners' Cun. Asprilla als i soores a sectacular goal in Parma's 2-0 win over

in recent weeks, their imperious an graduate tempered by the loss of injured stars. Swegger beautiful They were deprived by injury of Dutch trio Marco van Basten, Frank Rijkaard and Ruud Gullit plus Croat Zvonimir Boban and Rofferto Donadoni, Gianluigi Lentini and

Moian, certain to capture the League title and favourites for the European Cup, also had their strength sapped by the sheer number

of matches they had to play.

They lost their first competitive match for 11 months when Roma beat them 2-0 in an Italian Cup semifinal first leg and were held 2-2 at Lazio last week. Milan coach Fabio Capello, asked if he felt defeat would remove a

psychological weight and free Milan to once again play their best soccer, was sceptical. "Defeats are not liberating. I prefer victories which charge you

ttp," he said.
"However, it had to happen one day. We'll start off again from zero next Sunday." Milan continue to lead second-placed Internazionale by an

imposing nine points. Inter, however, produced another shock result with a 2-0 away win against a Juventus side which had reached the semifinals of the UEFA Cup with a 3-0 midweek win against Portuguese side Benfica.

Juventus patron and Fiat president Gianni Agnelli was bitterly isappointed at his side home defeat and said: "It will take Juventus three years to once again become a great side." Goals from Uruguyan Ruben Sosa and Russian Igor Shalimov in

the opening 21 minutes put the game beyond Juventus, who started without the injured Pier Luigi Casiraghi, Roberto Baggio and German Andreas Moeller.

GOREN BRIDGE

North-South vulnerable. North

D IS FOR DECEPTION IN DIAMONDS invented, the Egyptians conducted the type of old-fashioned auction that would not be duplicated by to-

day's "sophisticated" experts.

West led the king of diamonds, and the Israelite sitting Eest was

rather dubious about prospects for defeating the contract. Since the

able bidder, it was unlikely that

West held any significant high card

outside the diamond suit, so it

emed that two diamond tricks an the ace of clubs were all that was due the defenders, since the king of

hearts was clearly finessable.

After a moment's reflection, East came to the conclusion that the nine

of hearts could perform the key role

in a winning defense—if declarer could be lured into wasting one of the table's trump honors. So East

followed with the right of diamonds

to the first trick, and completed an echo with the deuce at trick two.

West obliged by leading a third round of he suit.

The suit.

The ker of all Egypt gazed at East his low suspiciously. Fearing to the suit of the suit.

with the one of trumps force the

ace and promote the king, declarer

ruffed with the ten. Now East had a sure trump trick no matter what.

NORTH A Q J 6 4 Q J 10 3 + Q 6 EAST WEST +9852 A 10954 SOUTH 4 K 10 7 A 8 6 4 2 +K873

The bidding: South West Poss Pass Pass Opening lead: King of v

There is a story in the Bible that contains a misprint. The Israelites did not have to make bricks out of straw. An Egyptian decree forced them to defend against contracts bid by the Pharnoh with very few high cards. It was cricks that they had to manufacture. Here is a case

As was always the case, the Pharach became declarer, this time at four hearts. Since the forring notrump response had not but been

in excellent form recently and last week reached the semifinals of the

in Baco

he had also reficed . unless the Moroccan Ata: - s

over the Olympic bonus. Skah won the Olympic 10 000 metres in Barcelona amid controversy after being initially disqualified in favour of Kenya's

Richard Chelimo. Le Matin said Skah, who the organisers Thursday."

Skah not selected for cross country championships

RABAT (R) - Olympic 10,000 metres champion Khalid Skah will not be crossing swords with his arch Kenyan rivals in the world cross country cham-pionsage, according to a Moroc-

The semi-official Daily Le Matin said Monday the two-times former world crass country champion had not been selected for this month's World Cham-

trained recently at the French resort of Font Romeu in the Pyreness, was "not selected and his name is not on the list sent to

сап рарет.

pionships in Spain.

nonships in Spain.

Skah, winner of the cross country title in 1990 and 1991 and fourth tobid in for the form of Kenya in Boston last year, threatened last month to boycott the championships upless the Moropose Redec to the sign him a

He aid not compete in the World Indoor Championships in Toronto earlier this month which

Federation resolved the dispute

Mansell says he has much to learn after Indy win

SURFERS PARADISE, Austrafia (R) - Nigel Mansell added a few more chapters to motor racing's record books Sunday but said he still has a lot to learn about driving an Indycar. After a victorious Indycar de-

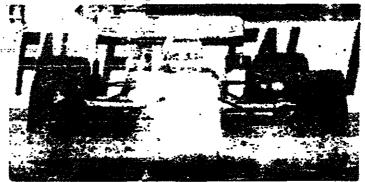
but in the Australian Grand Prix. the tenacious British driver said the next race in Phoenix, Arizona, April 4 is a venture into the u ÷kr_srwn There's a lot to learn. You

can't compare it to anything that Formula One does," he said. Mansell made a stunning start to his indycar career, winning the

60-lap race through the streets of

this Queensland holiday resort in a record time of just over one hour 52 minutes. On pole after setting a lap record during the qualifying ses-sion, Mansell became the first rookie driver to win his first Indy Grand Prix since the late Graham

Hill won the Indianapolis 500 in It was also the 1992 Formula One champion's first victory on Australian soil.



Nigel Marsell of the Australian Inducer Court Price

"I can't remember the last time enjoyed racing like that," a jubilant Mansell told reporters. Mansell now moves from street

circuits to the nigh speed onemile oval raceway at Phoenix. "It's a different science on an oval and that's going to be the

biggest challenge in two week's time. At least the road circuit is similar to what I've known all my

career." Mansell said he would go to Phoenix with an open mind. "It

In reasonably confedure in be happy and if I'm not I've got to work harder."

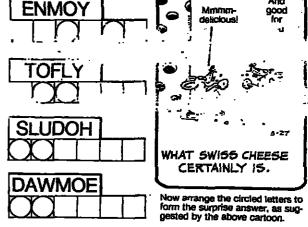
Emerson Fittipaldi, who finished five seconds behind Mansell Sunday after a tough duel, said his rival would find oval racing a challenge.

"It is a very demanding, very intense type of driving," said the Brazilian, who switched to In-dycars in 1984 after two Formula One titles.

THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen MARRIAGE COUNSELOR

"Know where we went wrong? We never should have ended our first date!"

JUNIBILE THAT JCRAMBLED WORL JAME Unscramble these four Jumbles And



Print answer here: Jumbles: PAUSE LEAVE CANINE PLEDGE

Answer. How do you divide six apples equally among five kids?—APPLESAUCE

Peanuts









Andy Capp







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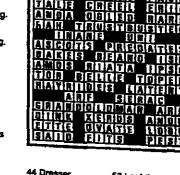


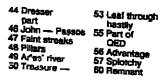
THE Daily Crossword by Virginia B. Hopewell 1 Town of which trials 6 — Raton, Fig. 10 Food fish 14 Rousseau nove 15 Algerian city 16 — majesty 17 Halley's — 18 Persian fairy 19 Inter — 20 Outlined 22 Mogadishu 26 Apes 27 Hopeful one 31 Pro -- 32 Heavy mache 33 Lugged 35 Before: pret. 38 Flair 39 Telegraphed 39 Telegraphed 40 Satiste 41 Knockout cour 43 Throw water on 44 Actress Ruby 45 Gratified Puzzie Solve 47 Authorize 51 Neither good nor bad 52 Devices for



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CINTERNATION (2007)

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Crises over franc, trade may await French right

PARIS (R) — The conservative the ERM and EMU are kaput," coalition cruising to victory in France's parliamentary elections can expect a baptism of fire over its policy toward the franc and talks to liberalise world trade. independent economists say.

They said both issues, if mishandled, could set off a crisis within the European Community (EC), possibly derailing the EC's lans for a single currency and utting great strain on the Parissonn alliance that is at the heart of the 12-nation bloc.

The immediate challenge for the conservatives, which trounced the ruling Socialists in Sunday's first round of voting for the National Assembly, will be to stand by a campaign pledge to pursue the policy of the franc

fort" (strong franc). Edouard Balladur of the Gaullist Rally for the Republic (RPR), tipped to be prime minister if the RPR maintains its lead over its Union for French Democracy (UDF) partner in next Sunday's run-off, has vowed not to devalue or float the franc.

But financial markets are sceptical that the new government will endure the high interest rates needed to keep the franc on a par with the mark when unemployment is brushing three million.

Paul Home, an economist with U.S. brokers Smith Barney in Paris, said the stakes of the looming trial of strength with the markets were huge. "If they pull out of the franc fort policy, then

Saudis find first onshore oil and gas in northwest

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said the kingdom has discovered its first onshore oil and gas field in the northern Red Sea coastal

He did not disclose the size of the find, but added that further exploration and surveys would be carried out to determine the

The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) quoted Sheikh Nazer as saying the field, in the Medin area northwest of the industrial portage Yanbu, was the "first onshore one discovered in the northern coastal part of the Red Sea in the

Most of Saudi Arabia's oil wealth is located in the eastern and central parts of the country. condensates were found in the

be said.

The exchange rate mechanism (ERM), which pins most Community currencies in set bands, is the building block of the EC's bold plan for economic and monetary union (EMU) enshrined in the Maastricht treaty on closer European integration.

Mr. Horne sees no more than a 40 per cent chance of the conservatives' severing the link to the mark, but he said they might be forced initially to raise interest rates to establish their market

On the face of it, the new government's position on the long-running trade talks organised by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) has nothing to do with the franc.

But, if it upsets Bonn by refusing to endorse a GATT deal, some economists said Germany's vitally necessary support — both verbal and financial — for the strong franc could falter.

They must be careful not to drive such a rift between them over GATT that the Germans don't want to cooperate on issues such as the franc," said Jonathan Hoffman of investment house Credit Suisse First Boston in Lon-

German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel last month criticised outgoing Prime Minister Pierre Beregovoy's demand to restart the seven-year-old GATT talks from scratch and his pledge to mers.

tween the United States and the

"We have shown solidarity with France almost to the point of self-denial. Now it's up to France to show solidarity with Germany, which is especially dependent on free trade," he said.

Mr. Kinkel, sounding more concliatory, said Monday he was sure Paris and Bonn would continue to work well together.

But the fact remains that RPR leader Jacques Chirac has, if anything, taken an even tougher line than the Socialists on GATT, saying he was ready for a showdown with Washington and a crisis within the EC if necessary to protect French farmers. Is Mr. Chirac, a wily former

prime minister, bluffing? "With all the emotional talk, I don't see how they can avoid a veto on GATT," a European diplomat in Paris said. "I think they might be prepared to create

a European crisis." But Mr. Horne said ultimately Mr. Chirac would not sacrifice the Bonn-Paris axis and the GATT talks on the agricultural altar by resorting to a veto. "France would find itself in a miniority of one and risk the entire EMU and Maastricht process," he said.

Instead, emboldened by his election showing, he would try to exact from Brussels increased compensation for French far-

Machinery, electronics, vehi-

cles, vessels, textiles and base

metals dominated both the im-

tained its position as the main

destination for Dubai's reexports,

accounting for almost 30 per cent.

Goods worth 2.68 billion dirhams

(\$730 million) were reexported to

Iran last year while Saudi Arabia

ranked second with 758 million

big Abu Dhabi

DUBAI (R) — A consortium,

led by American giant Bechtel has signed a contract worth \$1.35

billion to develop an onshore gas field in Abu Dhabi, officials said.

The deal involves Technin of

France. Work on the three-year

development project at Bab gas field on behalf of the Abu Dhabi

National Oil Company

(ADNOC) will start immediate-

ly, a Bechtel official said. "It is a

very large project," he said when

asked about the size of the field's

estimated gas reserves. He said

Bechtel planned to bring "a lot of

subcontractors" into the project.

Abu Dhabi's proven natural gas

reserves are generally estimated

at around 182.8 trillion cubic feet,

more than 90 per cent of the

United Arab Emirates' total gas

Cinema

dirhams (\$206.5 million).

Bechtel wins

gas project

Iran across the Gulf main-

port and reexport lists.

uncertain amid financing worries

for the world's airlines and their suppliers are likely to get worse before they get better, aggravat-ing an already shake outlook for the financing of new aircraft, industry officials say.

That uncertainty over the availability of financing will shadow the industry for the foreseeable future, experts said.

"Restoration of the confidence of the finance community may be one of the most important things required for a full recovery." said John Feren, vice president of McDonnell Douglas Corp. David Jennings, vice presi-

dent at Airbus Industrie, said the lack of confidence was itself contributing to the industry's inability to bounce back from its slump.

Asked if the European consortium might stimulate sales by helping carriers finance orders, he said, "we're not in the business of financing aircraft, we're in the very risky business of produc-

Airline experts said air fares would go even-lower and competition become even fiercer, pushing back hope of a recovery to 1994 or later.

Carriers worldwide will continue recent patterns of cancelling orders and delaying retirement of older planes, they said. That will lead aircraft manufacturers in turn to continue the substantial cuts in production and deliveries that has accelerated in late 1991 and early 1993.

Even when airline traffic does

fleet currently in storage will dampen new orders for years to come. In addition, projected stable low jet fuel prices will force newer fuel-efficient jets to compete for sales with a large supply of used aircraft being offered at bargain prices.

McDonnell Douglas Chairman John McDonnell last month called for government loans to help airlines finance purchases of new

The big three aircraft manufacturers — Boeing Co., Airbus and McDonnell Douglas — have each issued optimistic long-term growth forecasts, projecting annual global air traffic growth of 5.5 to five per cent over the next

But one major player, International Lease Finance Corp. said significant upturn in traffic or jet production is unlikely any time over the next several years.

"Airbus, Boeing, and McDonnell Douglas are overly optimis-tic," said John Plueger, senior vice president of International Lease, a unit of American International Group.

"They are slowly coming to grips with reality," he told Reu-ters, noting that total jet produc-tion in 1994 will be half of what it was in 1992, itself a down year.

"We'll be lucky if we see three per cent traffic growth a year over the next few years," he said, adding that the world fleet could easily stand to lose 600 aircraft pick up, the overhang caused by a rather than add new jets.

Seoul unveils ambitious plan to boost economy

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) -The government Monday announced a further interest rate cut, special loans and other emergency measures to stimulate the stagnant economy. Business groups mostly wel-

comed what they called long overdue efforts, but expressed doubts over whether the government of new President Kim Young Sam was doing enough to: end the recession. South Korea's economic

growth rate plunged to about two per cent in the latest quarter from about 10 per cent in recent years as a tight money policy, meant to combat inflation, discouraged sales and investment.

fears that Monday's measures would revive high inflation and huge trade deficits that had begun to subside recently under the previous administration's stability oriented economic policy.

The "100 day plan for a new economy" was reported to Mr. Kim by Deputy Prime Minister Lee Kyung Shik in an expanded economic meeting attended by government officials, businessmen and ordinary citizens.

Mr. Kim had ordered cabinet members to come up with economy boosting measures immediately after taking office Feb.

The highlight of the plan was a further cut in bank interest rates by the end of this month, intended to encourage business in-

In late January, then president elect Kim persuaded the administration of former president Roh Tae Woo to lower bank interest rates by one to two percentage points, but the impact was minim-

Government officials said bank interest rates would be lowered by another 0.5 to one percentage points in the second rate cut.

Local businessmen have complained that South Korea's bank interest rates of more than 10 per cent a year, about the highest in the world, cut sharply into their The plan also calls for \$1.3

crease in the amount of support for deferred payment exports from \$2 billion to \$3 billion, and \$713 million in loans to buy locally made machinery. The plan also would ease government regulations on private

medium size companies, an in-

business activities, particularly financial transactions on overseas

It calls for restraint in wage raise demands and other austerity In a statement, the Federation

of Korean Industries, representing most major local companies, said the measures would "increase exports and revive investment by manufacturing

Airline recovery | Commodity fund finds role helping poor farmers

national fund seen initially as a bank for now unfashionable price stabilisation pacts is finding a new role financing commodity development projects often aimed at helping some of world's poorest farmers.

Projects so far approved by the Common Fund for Commodities include two aimed at improving the quality of jute from countries such as Bangladesh, where producers face competition from synthetic substitutes to supply the carpet industry.

Managing Director Budi Hartantyo said the fund gave priority to projects which helped the least developed countries.

He added in an interview it was unable at present to fulfil its role of helping to finance commodity buffer stocks because the method of stabilising prices is largely out of favour.

It took four years to negotiate the setting up of the fund, which has a membership of 105 countries, with agreement reached in 1980. But it was not brought into force until 1989.

In the intervening period the mood had been transformed by events such as the tin crisis, where a buffer stock operation collapsed resulting in huge losses

Japan ruling

party 'plans

stimulative

TOKYO (R) — Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) plans a 14 trillion yen (\$120 bil-

lion) package to stimulate the

sagging economy, a top LDP official was quoted as saying.

It would be Japan's biggest

postwar package, surpassing a

10.7 trillion yen (\$92 billion)

programme announced last Au-

gust to fight the economic slow-

down, the top-selling Yomiuri

Shimbun Sunday quoted Hiroshi

Officials are currently working

out the details of the package

which would be officially decided

before Prime Minister Kiichi

Miyazawa leaves for a visit to the

United States in mid-April, said

Mr. Mitsuzuka, chairman of the

LDP's Policy Affairs Research

The package would include

tives for capital investment and

It would also allocate one tril-

lion yen (\$9 billion) raised from

construction bonds for the purch-

ase of computers for educational,

research and medical institutions

and for the extension of an optic

Mr. Miyazawa, who heads for

Washington in mid-April for talks with U.S. President Bill Clinton,

has staked his future on ending

the economy's two-year turn-

down. He is expected to face a

general election later this year.

According to a poll carried by

the Yomiuri, an overwhelming

majority of Japan's top business-

men wanted the government to

Tel.: 677420

implement such a package.

fibre communications network.

housing-related tax cuts.

Mitsuzuka as saying.

Council.

package'

Mr. Hartantyo said problems had arisen with buffer stocks as they were designed to stabilise cyclical markets while many commodities moved into long-term oversupply during the 1980s due to problems which were structu-

These included technological advances which improved yields and allowed some crops to thrive in regions previously considered unsuitable.

Indonesia, for example, has been able to expand output of cocoa tenfold during the last 10 years and looks set to soon emerge as the world's number two producer.

Cocoa prices have subsequently tumbled to their lowest level in real terms since records began as world stocks soared.

Poor countries, crippled by large external debts, also attempted to meet their commitments by expanding production thereby contributing to surpluses. Mr. Hartantyo said however he

believed that the future for commodity producers may be brighter, with much of his optimism pinned to the economic miracle currently taking place in East and

Growth rates of around nine to 10 per cent have been seen in much of the region, while in some areas such as south China it has it

been as high as 20 per cent. If this can be sustained this must ultimately lead to higher consumption of commodities such as rubber and possibly even a

cocoa, he said. The fund has two accounts, the first of which is designed to help finance buffer stock operations and has deposits of around \$220 million in cash and promissary notes. Interest on this account is used to pay all the fund's adminis-

trative costs. The sercond account is for financing commodity develop-ment and has the potential to reach around \$230 million although much of the money has not yet been needed so has not been called in from national gov-

Six projects have so far been if approved (two for jute, two rub- pleer, one cotton and one olive oil); with a total value of 4.8 million of IMF Special Drawing Rights

One project was approved in 1991, five last year and Mr. Hartantyo said he believed 10 to 12 d would be accepted this year.

China's planners say they will put farmers first

BELIING (R) — China's planners, worried about declining incentives for the farmers who feed the world's most populous nation, have said they would make improvements in agriculture a top

Finance Minister Liu Zhongli said China would boost investment in agriculture by 9.3 per cent this year, an increase of 3.5 billion yuan (\$610 million) to a total of 41.9 billion yuan (\$7.31

Mr. Liu announced the outlays in his 1993 budget speech to parliament "in order to speed up the commercialisation of the rural economy and protect the interests of farmers.

The state pays farmers rockbottom prices for their crops and then sometimes in IOUs, with cash not materialising until months later. On top of that, some rapacious local officials impose arbitrary fees and taxes.

Officials admit that this combination, more conducive to ing many peasants off the land in search of more lucrative jobs.

"Agriculture, the foundation of our economy, is relatively weak... the peasants' incomes have risen only slowly and their financial burden has been too heavy," conceded Premier Li Peng in his state of the nation

The government plans to raise state purchasing prices for grain and cotton, and will readjust certain taxes on farmers to lighten their burden, the finance minister

Raising farmers' income is a key priority, he said. Despite the increase in investment and attention to the prob- grain reserve, Mr. Liu said.

lem, China is not expecting spectacular growth in agricultural output. Total output is set to grow by four per cent, said minister of the state planning commission Zou

The grain harvest will remain flat at 442.5 million tonnes, said Mr. Zou, a vice-premier Cotton will recover slightly from a disastrous year last year, rising to five million tonnes from 1992's 4.5 million. That was a fifth down

Widespread exploitation of far- 15 mers, one of the evils the communists vowed to stamp out four decades ago, has reared its head again as the profit motive takes "

precedence in China. Mr. Zou said: "In a good ! number of places peasants, produced more grain without any increase in their income, funds were collected arbitrarily and fees " were randomly apportioned, all 11 of which seriously added to the 1-

burden of peasants." Finance Minister Liu made it tended to crack down hard on ri

illegal fee collection. The officials said China would ... continue to support grain and cotton production with subsidies o to help buy items such as chemical fertilisers and diesel oil and would limit the price of pesticides 3and other materials.

The government will end subsidies on grain purchasing prices, " another step in the gradual move go a free market in grain, Mr. Liu ic said. But in the meantime it would set protective prices.

The money China will even-d tually save from cutting grain e subsidies will be used to set up a

Support erodes on Clinton's economic programme

NEW YORK (R) - Support for President Bill Clinton's programme for righting the U.S. economy has eroded although it is still strong, according to the results of a Time/CNN opinion poll. The poll indicated that Mr. Clinton's overall popularity remains

steady at 53 per cent compared to 56 per cent a month ago. But more Americans now think Mr. Clinton is doing a poor job of handling the economy, keeping important campaign promises and reducing the huge poll of government budget deficit.

The telephone pollof 800 Americans was conducted by Yankelo-

vich Partners Inc on March 18 with a sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 per cent. The battle over Mr. Clinton's plan has moved to the Senate after

the House of Representatives approved its first planks.

The plan seeks more than \$300 billion in new taxes, \$144 billion in new spending on "investments" like job training and education and more than \$200 billion in spending cuts. Some 53 per cent of the poll respondents said they approved of the

way Mr. Clinton, who took office on January 20, is doing his job, down slightly from 56 per cent but higher than the 49 per cent recorded three weeks after Mr. Clinton took office.

On his handling of the economy, 31 per cent thought the president was doing a poor job, up 11 points from 20 per cent a month ago.



Dubai imports reach \$12.96 billion in 1992 DUBAI (R) — The booming billion dirhams (\$1.03 billion) followed closely by Germany and

Gulf emirate of Dubai increased its imports by almost 25 per cent last year to 47.55 billion dirhams (\$12.96 billion), according to official figures obtained by Reuters

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) state of Dubai, the Gulf's leading trading centre, also increased reexports by 20 per cent to nine billion dirhams (\$2.45 billion), according to the Dubai Statistics Office figures.

Japan was the main source of imports for the small oil producer which has a flourishing car and electronics market, supplying goods worth 7.26 billion dirhams (\$1.98 billion), 15.26 per cent of

als and arts and crafts.

China overtook the United States to become the second largest exporter to Dubai. It exported 3.83 billion dirhams (\$1.04 billion) worth of goods, mainly textiles, light machinery, chemic-The United States ranked third with exports to Dubai worth 3.77

Sheikh Nazer said oil, gas and Philippine power

cuts may worsen

as remedies fail MANILA (R) - Electricity cuts of up to eight hours a day are likely to worsen this summer because the Philippine state power firm cannot keep its ageing plants

"For six straight months, we have had daily brownouts (power cuts), initially for three, four, five then six hours. And now, with summer just round the corner. there will very likely be eight to nine hours of brownouts a day."

running, a business leader has

Raul Concepcion said. Mr. Concepcion, who heads a task force that sets the schedule for power cuts, estimated in a statement that blackouts were costing the country at least \$16 million a day.

Calling for a thorough shakeup of the state-owned National Power Corporation (NPC), he said a major problem was its failure to maintain existing power plants

He recommended that repair and maintenance of seven power plants be privatised, and NPC operations decentralised. We can cope with three-tofour-hour brownouts, but with

eight-to-10-hour brownouts, no-

thing can be done except sit

down," he said.

The crisis worsened last week when the 300 megawatt Calaca-1coal-fired plant broke down outside Manila.

Power problems wiped out economic growth in 1992 and Mr. Concepcion predicted the country would not be able to achieve that 4.5 per cent growth target set by the government.

Calling the effect of the crisis horrendous, he said: "The Philippines has missed the wave of foreign investments due to brownouts. Jobs and income are being lost by the people." The government has embarked

on a crash programme to build diesel and gas turbine power stations but the gap between demand and capacity is growing as existing plants break down repeatedly. Mr. Concepcion, an industrial-

ist whose family runs a group of manufacturing and food com-panies, said he found it difficult to accept government pledges to ease the crisis by September.

He said cuts have not only harmed production but also undermined consumer demand. which along with earnings of Filipino workers abroad kept the

economy afloat over the past two

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

6.9500/600

6.2950/3050

\$1,4880/90

1.6340/50 1.8390/400 1.5097/107 33.80/85 5.5700/30 1580/1585 115.85/90 7.6830/930

One ounce of gold \$332.15/332.65

One U.S. dollar

One sterling

Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns

Tel.: 634144

Sylvester Stallane — in

STOP! OR MY MOM WILL SHOOT

Shows: 11:00, 1:00, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Tel.: 675571

Presents as of March 17, 1993 the political comedy play

Definitely Democracy

Tel.: 699238 **PLAZA**

(Arabic) Shows: 3:00, 4:45, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30, 12:30



Nabil & Hisham's

New World Order

Plays continue daily at 9:00 p.m.

except Saturdays and Sundays

CONCORD

HOME ALONE 2

"LOST IN NEW YORK

Shows: 11:00, 1:00, 3:15, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30

Cinema Ahmed Zaki --- in

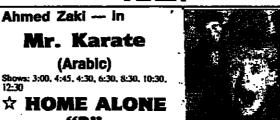


Tel.: 625155 AHLAN THEATRE

PHILADELPHIA

Nabil Al Mashini Theatre

(Demokratiyya Wa Nuss) Zawwad Wild Awwad Party **Macaulay Culkin**



Shows: 11, 1, 3 only

Happy Feast

Sarajevo comes under heaviest Serb bombardment of year

Serb forces Monday of targeting non strategic civilian areas in the heaviest bombardment of the year on the besieged capital.

U.N. officials, meanwhile. relief for Srebrenica, which was the target of overnight shelling. Col. Marcel Valentin of France

said U.N. military observers counted nearly 2,400 shells in a barrage Sunday, including 414 in Sarajevo's old city, a mainly residential area without major military positions.

Col. Valentin said he tried without success to reach a senior Serb commander to request a halt to the barrage, which, according . to unofficial counts, killed at least seven people and wounded

The French commander wondered aloud how the Serb gunners could "coordinate their fire wihout a senior officer being pre-

sent at the headquarters."
In the east, U.N. officials took up a Serb request for evacuation of 272 Serbs from the government held town of Tuzla in the north-

Serbs have made such an evacuation a condition for allowing helicopters into Srebrenica to evacuate sick and wounded.

The list includes some Serbs who want to leave, but have property and would be willing to stay in Tuzla if their safety was assured, said Peter Kessler,

Ú.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Gen. Philippe Morillon, com-mander of all U.N. forces in Bosnia, negotiated the evacuations Sunday. He rejected suggestions that the move could be seen worked to clear the way for more as the start of more "ethnic cleansing" to create more ethnically homogeneous regions in

> Gen. Morillon has been holed up in Srebrenica Post Office for more than a week, essentially standing between attacking Serbs and tens of thousands of desperate refugees and residents stranded in the town.

Serb forces again shelled the Srebrenica region overnight, with some attacks apparently coming from weapons in Serbia itself. across the nearby Drina River border with Bosnia, Sarajevo Radio reported.

Four people were killed and seven wounded, the radio said. The report could not be independently confirmed.

In Sarajevo, heavy fighting and shelling also continued early Monday around the airport. The international airlift, halted Friday, remained suspended.

Serb forces were gaining terri-tory in a gradual offensive on Stup, a western suburb near the airport. Further Serb gains could place the U.N. command post, located in a former Sarajevo communications building, directly on

Asked whether he thought Serbs were trying to maximise



Gen. Philippe Morillon

their holdings before the possible signing of a peace plan, Col. Valentin replied: "Its obvious."

He said Sunday's bombardment was "the heaviest shelling since the beginning of the year. He said the Serbs seemed to have timed the barrage to take advantage of a diversion of media attention to the plight of Srebre-

"This is the first time we saw so many shells on the same place," he said, referring to the targeting of civilian areas Sunday.

Gen. Morillon has moved from Sarajevo to Srebrenica, making daily sorties to negotiate with the Bosnian Serbs on his demands for Serb bombing.

a ceasefire in the area, deployment of U.N. military observers. free passage for aid convoys and evacuation of the sick and

Overnight, U.S. planes dropped more than 43 tonnes of food and other supplies in the Srebremica area.

France said Sungay, it would join the U.S. airlift to eastern Bosnia. Joint flights are likely to depart from Frankfurt, where aid supplies are stockpiled, by the end of the week.

Mr. Kessler said the UNHCR had set up a soup kitchen in Srebrenica, providing 2,100

meals a day.
On Friday, U.N. trucks brought the first overland shipment of aid to Srebrenica in more than three months. The same trucks evacuated almost 700 Muslim refugees to Tuzla Saturday. U.N. officials are trying to

bring another food convoy and a French field hospital past Serb lines into Srebrenica. A ham radio operator monitored in Sarajevo said 3,000 shells fell around Srebrenica Sunday,

including several in the town cen-At the United Nations in New York, the Security Council is

fly-zone over Bosnia. Last week, the council condemned the Serb side for bombing villages near Srebrenica, the first time the United Nations had confirmed frequent allegations of

moving toward enforcing a no-

A Bosnian soldier wounded in the intense bombardcut all exit routes from the Bosnian capital, and ment of Sarajevo's western suburb, Stup, is carried into the emergency room. The Serbs are trying to

N.Korean nuclear obligations are non-negotiable — Seoul

out of the nuclear nonproliferation treaty (NPT), cannot use its nuclear obligations as a bargaining counter to gain concessions, South Korea's foreign minister said Monday.

"Even if negotiations are held to peacefully solve this issue, Pyongyang's compliance with In-ternational Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) nuclear inspections cannot be bargained for some-thing else." Foreign Minister Han Sung-Joo told reporters on the eve of a trip to the United States.

Mr. Han's first stop will be the United Nations, where he will discuss counter-measures against North Korea's withdrawal from the NPT this month.

"We must not rule out the possibility that the North is trying to complete its build-up of nuc-lear weapons," Mr. Han said. We have to consider this possi-

bility seriously." He will also visit Japan, a country gravely concerned about North Korea's nuclear ambitions, before returning home March 31, the IAEA's deadline for com-

global tensions when it pulled out subsiding following the end of the of the treaty to limit the spread of South Korea-United States nuclear weapons rather than annual Team Spirit military exerallow the IAEA to inspect two cises last Thursday.

The move prompted South Korea to set the earliest possible date for the new foreign minister's visit to the United States. Mr. Han is a member of the cabinet appointed on Feb. 26, the

Sam took office. Pyongyang described the sites as non-nuclear military installations and accused the IAEA of seeking to spy on North Korea at

day after President Kim Young-

Washington's behest.
The Vienna-based IAEA has given Pyongyang a March 31 deadline to open the two sites to inspection.

The North will be struck hard and may wither to death if the U.N. Security Council imposes economic sanctions with China's cooperation," Gong Ro-Myung, Seoul's chief negotiator in talks with the North on the nuclear issue, said Sunday.

China is Pyongyang's only ma-jor ally and Seoul hopes it will mediate to defuse tensions on the Korean peninsula.

"China is well aware of our position and so it's not wise to pressure the Chinese too much, the foreign minister said.

Much of the tension generated Reclusive North Korea fuelled by Pyongyang's declaration is

North Korea went on a "semiwar" footing in response to the exercise, which it said was a rehearsal for an invasion.

Mr. Gong said the two cold war foes may renew bilateral talks on the nuclear dispute next month. Some 1.5 million people have volunteered to join North Korea's army and wage a "sacred war" to reunite the Korean peninsula, Pyongyang's official media reported Monday.

The surge of voluntee.s was "a hearty response" to the North's declaration of the "semi-war" state, according to the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA).

The KCNA report, monitored in Tokyo, said many of the volun-teers wrote in blood, "I shall fight with life for Generalissimo Kim II Sung and the Supreme Commander Kim Jung II. Sacred war for reunification, 1993."

Kim Il Sung has ruled Com-munist North Korea since the Koreas were divided in 1945. Kim Jung II, his son and expected heir, heads the North's 1.1 mil-

tion troop army.

The KCNA report said the 1.5 million volunteers signed up for service in the "10 or more days" since the semi-war order was issued on March 9, when Team Spirit began. The manouevres, involving 120,000 troops, ended last Thursday.

canist Congress (PAC) said APLA had killed the woman and

children. There were no immedi-

ate claims for the other attacks.

Desai said Sunday a race war

against whites was counter-

productive and not part of PAC

Mr. Desai, saying he was also speaking for APLA, said the

PAC was outraged by calls to the

PAC information chief Barney

Emma Thompson wins Britain's top film award

LONDON (R) - British actress

Emma Thompson Sunday won I taking the Best Actress Award for her role in Howard's End. which was also named Best Film.
The British Academy of Film and
Television Awards (BAFTA) are seen as an early pointer to the Oscars, to be announced in Hoilywood on March 29. Howard's End, based on a 1908 novel by British writer E.M. Forster, has nine Oscar nominations, including one for Thompson as Best Actress. "I probably don't quite realise how nervous I will be at the Oscars," an excited Thomp-son said. "I'm probably going to have some sort of a frothing fit before it and be flown home to England in a wooden crate."
Thompson's husband Kenneth Branagh won an award for his contribution to cinema at the ceremony at London's Grosvenor House Hotel. Actor Robert Downey Ir won the Best Actor Award for his role in Sir Richard Attenborough's film Chaplin, based on the life of silent film star Chartie Chaplin. Downey has also been nominated for an Oscar. The Alexander Korda Award for Best British Film went to The Crying Game, about a British soldier captured by the Irish Republican Army and his relationship with one of his captors. In the Television Awards, John Thaw won Best Actor for Inspector Morse, a series about an intellectual but grumpy police detective, which also netted the Best Drama Series.

Japan anti-smokers want tennis meet cancelled

TOKYO (R) — Anti-smoking activists in Japan have asked a U.S.-based tobacco company to cancel an international tennis tournament, the Salem Open. scheduled to start in western Japan next Monday. A spokeswoman for R.J. Reynolds/M.C. Tobacco acknowledged Monday receiving a letter from an antismoking lobby opposing its sponsorship of the tournament and claiming that sports and tobacco are incompatible. Reynolds, a subsidiary of R.J. Revnolds Tobacco International of the United States, is sponsoring the Salem Open meet to be held in Osaka from March 29 to April 4. World number one Jim Courier of the United States and German 😼 superstar Boris Becker are among those due to take part. In the letter, the activists said they could not tolerate an event which was aimed at selling tobacco to young people. However, a spokeswoman for Reynolds said the company's advertisements were aimed at smokers above the

China Communist school to teach capitalism

PEKING (R) — The head of

legal smoking age of 20.

China's central party school, a Marxist training ground for leaders of the world's last major Communist state, said Monday that the school would now teach the basics of capitalism. School Vice President Su Xing told the official Xinhua News Agency that instead of focusing on ideological purity, the central party school wanted to "improve capabilities of trainees for economic management." Mr. Su said the school's new focus was the "Socialist market economy", senior leader Deng Xiaoping's combination of strict political control and greater economic freedom. "New courses cover finance, real estate and securities," Mr. Su was quoted as saying. "It is important to have a real understanding of rules governing economic operation and the law of value."

Auction of Kadar estate raises 207,000

BUDAPEST (R) - The weekend auction of former Hungarian communist Party chief Janos Kadar's estate fetched 18 million forints (\$207,000), most of which will go to charity, the sale's organisers said Monday. Wilma Patzay, director of the art gallery that handled the auction, told Hungarian radio that more than 90 per cent of the belongings from the estate of Mr. Kadar and his wife, Maria, had been sold. A golden wristwatch that former Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev had presented to Mr. Kadar fetched the biggest single offer. An unidentified Hungarian woman paid 1.1 million forints (\$12,650) for the watch, whose case carried the inscription "to my friend Janos

Italian premier to replace agriculture minister

ROME (R) — Italian Prime Minister Giuliano Amato said Monday he would replace Gianni Fontana, who resigned as agriculture minister over the weekend after becoming caught up in the country's political corruption

Hitler

Sunday.

one testicle.

ternal Medicine.

the brain.

candidates.

rian herbs.

lich wrote.

his actions.

may have

from disease

CHICAGO (R) - Adolf Hitler

was an uncooperative patient

who self-medicated and refused

to let his doctors examine his

genitals, possibly because he was

embarrassed over having only

one testicle, a researcher said

Hitler probably also suffered

from a disease that reduces blood

flow to the brain, according to

University of California at Los

Angeles School of Medicine re-

In an article based on the diary

and correspondence of Dr.

Theodor Morrell, Hitler's per-

sonal physician between 1941 and

1945, Mr. Redlich said Hitler

resisted his doctor's care, perhaps

because he may have had only

cooperative patient who self-

medicated and refused clinical examinations of his lower abdo-

men," Dr. Redlich wrote in the

medical journal Archives of In-

mortem reports raised doubts ab-

out whether the charred body

that was worked on was really

Hitler's, in part because the

Soviets reported it had only one

testicle and there was no record

of such an abnormality.

Dr. Redlich said Hitler's symp-

toms indicated he suffered from

an arterial disease that causes

inflammation and can reduce

blood flow from the arteries to

arteritis can now be treated with

Cortisone therapy. It occurs in

patients of advanced age, and

Hitler at the age of 50 would fall

into the low range of susceptible

tentative without biopsy or auto-psy findings," Dr. Redlich wrote. "Morrell probably never heard of

it, and Cortisone therapy did not exist during Hitler's lifetime."

mitted suicide in his Berlin bunk-

er in the closing days of World War II, Morrell made the Di-

agnosis of Parkinson's disease

and recommended treatment

with Harmin, an extract of Bulga-

readily apparent in newsreels that

escaped Nazi censors, Dr. Red-

own opinion that Hitler's medical

problems cannot be blamed for

nor the diagnosis of giant cell

arteritis-temporal arteritis ex-

plains any of Hitler's crimes and mistakes," he wrote.

"Neither Parkinson's disease

But Dr. Redlich expressed his

Hitler's Parkinsonism was

Two weeks before Hitler com-

(The diagnosis) remains

Giant cell arteritis or temporal

A French study of Soviet post

"Hitler was a difficult and un-

searcher Fritz Redlich.

of arteries

suffered

"I am working on proposing a new agriculture minister." Mr.

Amato told reporters, ruling out suggestions he might temporarily

take over the portfolio himself.

The Christian Democrat Fon-

resign because of the scandal in less than two months.

Magistrates in his northern home town of Verona had warned him he was being investi-gated for possible breaches of the government.

ly receiving funds.

Although his departure had

sent jitters through financial markets in Milan, analysts had never believed it was likely to bring down Mr. Amato's scandal-tainted

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Tanker on fire off Dutch coast

AMSTERDAM (R) — A Danish tanker caught fire off the northern Dutch coast Monday, but the coastguard said the vessel was not carrying a cargo and the fire seemed to be under control. One of the 10-man crew was slightly injured, the coastguard said:
"There was no cargo on board and there is no cargo spilling into
the sea... the fire seems to be under control," Dutch Coastguard spokesman Cees Van Dijk said. The Danish built Maj Britt Terkol, a three-month-old chemicals carrier with a capacity of about 4,500 tonnes, was on its way from Rotterdam to Hamburg. It was 14 miles north of the island of Vlieland when the fire reported. Rescue ships and fire-fighting vessels were nearby but there were no immediate plans to evacuate the crew and the ship's captain had told the coastguard that the tanker was still manoeuvrable, Mr. Van Dijk said.

Yeltsin's mother is dead at 85

MOSCOW (AP) - In the midst of President Boris Yeltsin's struggle with the Russian parliament, he has been hit by personal loss. His mother, Klavdia Yeltsin, died over the weekend in the Siberian city of Yekaterinburg. She was 85. Rumours of her death first surfaced Sunday at the session of the Supreme Soviet legislature. Government officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, later confirmed the whispered reports. Commonwealth Television also reported that Mrs. Yeltsin had died, without citing the cause or date of death.

Siege gunmen leave Costa Rica

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP) - The five gunmen who occupied the Nicaraguan embassy here for nearly two weeks left Costa Rica Sunday. Four went to Nicaragua and their leader to the Dominican Republic. The gunmen had demanded \$6 million and changes in the government of President Violeta Chamorro of Nicaragua. No government shakeup was announced, but Nicaragua's interior minister said Managua paid the men \$250,000 to end the siege. Four masked men left for Nicaragua in a helicopter belonging to the Costa Rican government. Jose Orbina Lara, the leader of the group that stormed the embassy on March 8, left later Sunday for the Dominican Republic. where he was granted

Mortars fired on Philippine airport

DAVAO, Philippines (R) - Unidentified attackers fired improvised mortars Monday at Davao Airport in the southern Philippines, narrowly missing the runway. Police said no one was hurt. Bombs from three battery-operated mortars apparently sited just beyond the perimeter fence landed near the runway five minutes after a Philippine Airlines domestic flight had touched down, investigator Anastacio Naive said. Police General Geronimo Valderrama said investigators were looking into the possible involvement of Communist guerrillas in the attack. He said police had not established what the actual target of the attack was but a suspect was being questioned. The blasts, which gouged out a crater but otherwise caused no damage, caused a temporary closure of the airport of Mindanao Island.

IRA plans inquiry into U.K. blast

DUBLIN (R) — The IRA plans to stage an internal inquiry into the weekend bombing in Britain that killed a three-year-old boy and sparked public outrage. Republican sources said Monday. "There is no way they would have wanted to kill a child. That sort of publicity does no good at all abroad," one Republican source said. "While the IRA sticks by its official line that adequate warning was given, it is likely that an internal inquiry will be held to see what went wrong," the source added. The Irish Republican Army, battling to oust Britain from Northern Ireland, said it planted two bombs which killed the child and wounded 56 people in the northern England town of Warrington Saturday.

Extremists attack German newspaper

MUNICH, Germany (R) - Suspected right-wingers firebombed a Bavarian newspaper Monday in the first attack on a newspaper office in a wave of anti-foreigner violence since German unification in 1990. A stone and a petrol bomb were thrown through a window in the office of the Mittelbayerische Zeitung in the town of Woerth north of Munich, a police spokesman said. The culprits daubed a large Swastika on a window and smaller Nazi symbols on two stickers saying "hostility to foreigners - we say no," he said. The pre-dawn attack caused some damage but no injuries.

Rivals launch strong attack on

Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao launched a strong attack on his leadership over the weekend, bringing a behind-the-scenes tussle within the ruling Congress Party into the open.

Human Resource Development Minister Arjun Singh, a key contender for the prime ministership, issued a statement Sunday accusing the party leadership of ignoring the rise of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Mr. Singh did not name Mr. Rao, who is also the Congress president, but there was no doubt he was the target.

"Any office in a democratic country, cannot onnly be adorned. There has to be clear proof that the office is being used as an effective instrument to protect and project the basic inparty, as the case may be," Mr. Singh said.

ment is tantamount to open re-bellion. Dissidence in the 108year-old party, which has ruled India for all but four years since independence in 1947, is rarely expressed publicly, and leadership battles are usually confined to closed-door meetings.

India's Rao

set-up, whether of a party or a terests of the country or the

In the Congress such a state-

5 S. African whites killed in 3 days

JOHANNESBURG (R) - managed to drive his bullet-holed Liberation Army (APLA), guerold white man Monday, the third station. attack on whites in South Africa in three days in which five people have died.

Three policemen were also killed in the Johannesburg area over the weekend and the 18-year-old son of an African National Congress (ANC) official was shot dead in the West Rand, pushing up the national death toll.

Police spokesman major Piet Van Deventer said Tony Concer was the passenger in a car driven by Daniel De Bruin, 52, on their way to work when three or four black gunmen opened fire from the roadside at Vanderbijlpark, about 60 kilometres south of

Black guntnen killed a 55-year- car to a hospital and a police rilla wing of the radical Pan Afri-

The shooting followed an attack by black gunmen on a car on a school run in the Walkerville area just south of Johannesburg Friday in which a mother and her 14-year-old son were killed. Another passenger in the car, a 13-year-old girl, died in hospital from head wounds Sunday night.

In the Eastern Cape, white technical college student Frederick Johannes Jerling, 18, was killed by a black gunman who

night, police said.

sprayed a motel bar near Fort Beaufort with rifle fire Saturday A telephone caller claiming to

media claiming APLA responsibility for the attack, The South African Press Association (SAPA) said APLA, contacted at its headquarters in Tan-

Mr. De Bruin was not hurt and speak for the Azanian People's Friday's killings.

zania, would neither confirm nor deny its members carried out

Crime soars in past 5 years in China PEKING (AP) - China's top "The general security situation crackdowns, making it hard to

judge said Monday that crime has is stable now, but in some places risen sharply in the past five years and that some parts of the country are virtually lawless.

Supreme People's Court President Ren Jianxin said in a report to the National People's Congress climbed an average 7.9 per cent annually since 1980.

Armoured divisions faced each

other in the Thar Desert, which

straddles the border between In-

dia and Pakistan, following an

anti-Indian rebellion in the part

of Kashmir ruled by New Delhi.

the security situation is still not good, with cases of serious crime continuing to rise. In a very few places, criminal activity is run-

ning wild," he said. China's rapid economic de-

determine how much of the rise in the crime statistics is due to tighter policing. Mr. Ren said that fewer than 1

security adviser, proved in-

strumental in averting the crisis

Mr. Jha said Mr. Gates' visit to

"He went to Pakistan first. He

both countries in April 1990 was

spoke quite strongly to the Pakis-

tamis. When he came here he

between India and Pakistan.

in 200 of more than 2.4 million criminal suspects brought before that the number of criminal cases that the number of criminal cases handled by China's courts had climbed an average 7.9 per cent white collar crime. This in turn courts over the past five years was has prompted a series of police due process of law.

Former Indian official denies threat of nuclear war

NEW DELHI (R) — India and Pakistan were close to war in mid-1990 but there was no threat of a nuclear confrontation, a former senior Indian government official said Monday. Prem Shankar Jha, a top aide

to then-Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, said the first intelligence that Pakistan was capable of deploying nuclear weapons came in July 1990, some two months after tensions had

He was responding to an article in the New Yorker magazine by Seymour Hersh, which said a major nuclear confrontation was barely averted through intervention by the United States.

Mr. Jha told Reuters U.S. intervention did play a part in easing tensions. But he added: "The implication of inevitability of nuclear war, as given by Mr. Hersh, is undiluted nonsense." Officials on both sides said at the time they did not want war.

The risk was acute in April-May

fought since independence from Britain in 1947. By June top diplomats of the two countries had held peace talks and initiated a series of confidence-building measures, Mr. Jha said.

"First evidence that Pakistan might be able to deploy nuclear weapons came in July when American satellites spotted heavy movement out of Kahuta (Pakistan's only nuclear facility)," Mr.

He said the satellites also picked up bomb racks being altered on Pakistan's F-16 fleet to carry nuclear bombs.

of) entering into a nuclear war before that was most unlikely," be said. "Our bombs, if we had any in the basement, remained in the basement.

India exploded an atomic de-

India accused Pakistan of vice in 1974 but says its nuclear arming, training and aiding Musprogramme is for peaceful purlim rebels in the Himalayan terriposes and that it does not possess tory, which is claimed by both weapons capability. countries. It has been the cause of In October 1990 the Indian two of the three wars they have government was informed Pakis-

> nuclear bombs, Mr. Jha said. By then, Mr. Singh's government was in the midst of a domestic political crisis and was set to resign, Mr. Jha said. "We left that information to the next government," he added

Mr. Singh was replaced by Chandra Shekhar in November that year and it is not known what action India took, if any.
In his New Yorker article, Mr. Hersh wrote that Robert Gates, a former director of the U.S. Cen-

was given the evidence we had of Pakistan training Muslim rebels in Kashmir," Mr. Jha said. "Later, the (Indian and Pakistani) troops were pulled back (in the Thar Desert) and the threat tan had between seven and nine passed. U.S. pressure did play a

> A spokesman for India's External Affairs Ministry said the govemment had no immediate comment on the New Yorker article. One of Mr. Hersh's sources was Richard Kerr, who was deputy director of the CIA until he

retired last year. He told Mr. Hersh: "It was the most dangerous nuclear situation we have ever faced since I've been in the U.S. government. It tral Intelligence Agency (CIA) may be as close as we who was then deputy national a nuclear exchange." may be as close as we've come to

Kadar, with respect, Brezhnev".